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A boy looks at the border wall, topped with razor wire and bathed in floodlights from the U.S. side, as he walks on the beach Monday, Jan. 7, 2019, in Tijuana, Mexico. Associated Press. Page 3

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## Fate of detained IS fighters uncertain as US exits Syria

By **DEB RIECHMANN** and **SUSANNAH GEORGE**, Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — What to do with hundreds of foreign Islamic State fighters captured in Syria has become a critical and growing problem for the Trump administration as it prepares to pull troops out of the country.

A senior administration official said Tuesday that resolving the fate of these prisoners is a top priority as the government lays the groundwork with allies to comply with President

Donald Trump's Dec. 19 order to withdraw the 2,000 American troops from Syria, where they have been working alongside the U.S.-backed Syrian Defense Forces to fight the Islamic State group since 2015. But there are no easy answers. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said releasing the fighters, among them Europeans and some U.S. citizens, would be "unacceptable" since they could simply rejoin the remnants of Islamic State fighters in Syria or elsewhere.



In this July 21, 2017, file photo, Kurdish soldiers from the Anti-Terrorism Units, carry a blindfolded Indonesian man suspected of Islamic State membership, at a security center, in Kobani, Syria.

tee of safety for the Kurdish fighters who have fought alongside U.S. troops against the Islamic State. There are fears that the U.S. withdrawal will leave a door open for Turkey to assault the U.S.-allied SDF fighters. Turkey views them as part of a terrorist group linked to an insurgency within its own borders. SDF commanders have warned that they will be unable to hold the 700 prisoners if Turkish forces invade Syria following a U.S. withdrawal. Administration officials so far do not have a plan for what to do with the prisoners, according to a separate U.S. official, who said that few countries have been willing to accept any of their captured citizens. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to disclose the information publicly.

In a recent case of an American suspected of IS membership, U.S. officials wrestled for more than a year, never charged him and then ultimately released him in Bahrain. The problem has been further complicated by conflicting reports of Trump's timeline for recalling the 2,000 U.S. troops from Syria. When he made his surprise announcement of the withdrawal three weeks ago, Trump said he wanted to complete it quickly. His abrupt decision led to the resignations of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and Brett McGurk, special presidential envoy for the global coalition to defeat IS. □

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"This matters because SDF holds hundreds of IS fighters, including many European citizens, and they might go free if no solution is found," said Bobby Chesney, a national security law expert at the University of Texas.

European nations have been reluctant to take back citizens with ties to the Islamic State, not wanting the legal challenge of prosecuting them or the potential security risk if they are released.

And moving former fighters to the United States poses some of the same challenges the U.S. has faced with men detained at the military base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, including whether it's feasible to prosecute militants captured on the battlefields of northern Syria, according to experts.

"It's one thing for the government to be very confident that an individual

joined or tried to join ISIS. And sometimes it's still another thing for the government to be able to mount confidently a criminal prosecution against that individual," said Joshua Geltzer, a senior counterterrorism official under President Barack Obama. Meanwhile, the prisoner problem is only growing worse.

On Sunday, the Syrian Defense Forces announced the capture of five fighters, including two U.S. citizens, one of whom has been identified as a former school teacher from Houston.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo just began a tour of eight Middle Eastern nations to discuss the withdrawal of the American troops. National security adviser John Bolton returned Tuesday from a meeting in Turkey, where he was seeking a guaran-

# Trump seeks an edge in shutdown fight with TV address

From Front

By CATHERINE LUCEY, LISA MASCARO and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press  
**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Fighting for advantage in the government shutdown battle, President Donald Trump aimed to use a prime-time address Tuesday to convince Americans he needs billions of dollars from Congress for his long-promised border wall to resolve security and humanitarian problems he contends have reached a crisis pitch. He was sure to face intense pushback from Democrats. Following up his first Oval Office speech, Trump plans a personal visit to the Mexican border on Thursday as he tries to put pressure on newly empowered Democrats in the shutdown stand-

off. His Tuesday evening remarks were to be followed by a televised rebuttal from House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, who strongly oppose the wall and have repeatedly called on Trump to reopen shuttered portions of the government while border negotiations continue. Trump has been discussing the idea of declaring a national emergency to allow him to move forward with the wall without getting congressional approval for the \$5.7 billion he's requested. But the president was not expected to make that declaration Tuesday night, said two people familiar with the White House plans, although it was possible he could change course. Such an emergency dec-

laration would represent a dramatic escalation of the dispute and would immediately draw legal challenges. It could potentially unlock military dollars for building the wall but would require the administration to make the case that the border situation was indeed a national crisis. While Trump has previously described the situation on the border that way — including when he directed active duty troops there ahead of the midterm elections — he has never signed an official proclamation. He will meet with Republican lawmakers at the Capitol on Wednesday. With his use of a formal White House speech instead of his favored Twitter

blasts, Trump is embracing the ceremonial trappings of his office as he tries to exit a political quagmire of his own making. For weeks he has dug in on a signature campaign promise to his base voters, the pledge to build an impregnable "beautiful" wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. But now his self-proclaimed deal-making skills are being put to the test. The partial government shutdown reached its 18th day, making the closure the second-longest in history. Hundreds of thousands of federal workers are going without pay, and government disruptions are hitting home with everyday Americans. But Trump has not budged on his de-

mands for \$5.7 billion in wall funding, and Democrats have not moved from their opposition, while many Republicans watch anxiously from the sidelines. Sen John Thune of South Dakota, the GOP whip, said he doesn't think the emergency declaration is the right move and "I prefer that we get this resolved the old-fashioned way." In recent days, Trump, who has long railed against illegal immigration at the border, has also seized on humanitarian concerns to argue there is a broader crisis that can only be solved with a wall. Critics say the security risks are overblown and the administration is at least partly to blame for the humanitarian situation. □

## Networks to air Pelosi, Schumer rebuttal to Trump

By DAVID BAUDER, AP Media Writer  
**NEW YORK (AP)** — Television networks are facing unusual pressure surrounding their responsibility to point out false or misleading statements after granting President Donald Trump's request to air his Oval Office speech on the proposed border wall and partial government shutdown. The four largest broadcast networks and top cable news networks agreed to carry Trump's speech and the Democratic response, which will be offered by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer. It's rare, but not unprecedented, for networks to say no to a presidential request for airtime. Some of the president's opponents had argued that Trump shouldn't get the airtime because he couldn't be trusted to tell the truth. Television executives were talking internally about ways to fact-check Trump, such as dedicating staff to parse statements the way it is often done after a presidential address, to the

more extreme approach of pointing out through chyrons, or text displayed on the air, in the event of a verifiable false statement. NBC said it would fact-check livestreams of both speeches through pinned comments on its Facebook page and through comments on the NBC and MSNBC Twitter accounts. Fact checks will also be featured prominently on the NBC News home page, the network said. New York University journalism professor Jay Rosen said on social media Tuesday that network officials should be asking themselves how likely it is that the speech will inform viewers, and how they can prevent the president from misinforming viewers. Late-night hosts were even getting in on the criticism, with CBS' Stephen Colbert noting on Twitter that "my network will be carrying Trump's wall speech live. So at 9 p.m. Tuesday, tune in to CBS to see B.S." NBC's Seth Meyers aired a lengthy segment early Tuesday suggesting Trump's speech not be televised. □



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## AP Exclusive: NC election fraud probed long before 2018 race

By **MICHAEL BIESECKER** and **EMERY P. DALESIO**, Associated Press

**RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)** — Long before accusations of absentee ballot fraud in a small North Carolina county cast doubt on the results of a heated 2018 congressional race, a state elections investigator spent weeks probing whether the man at the center of the current scandal was among a group buying votes.

That 2010 investigation was one of at least a half dozen instances over the last nine years that prosecutors and elections officials received complaints of serious elections irregularities in Bladen County, a rural locale of 35,000 people that has long had a statewide reputation for political chicanery by both Republicans and Democrats. The state's ongoing criminal investigation into 2018 voting irregularities has focused on Leslie McCrae Dowless Jr., a local political operative and convicted felon.

Marshall Tutor, who retired in March after 15 years as an investigator for the N.C. Board of Elections, told The Associated Press his office first fielded accusations nearly a decade ago that Dowless, now 62, was among a group giving voters cash to fill out ballots the way he directed.

Emails obtained by AP through a public records request detail the elections board's 2010 investigation in Bladen, which began after a Democratic candidate for county commissioner reported seeing political operatives handing voters what he suspected to be cash outside an early voting site.

Tutor traveled to Bladen multiple times, but said in an interview Monday



In this Dec. 5, 2018 photo, Leslie McCrae Dowless Jr. poses for a portrait outside of his home in Bladenboro, N.C. .

he was unable to build a strong enough case against Dowless to support criminal charges.

"Dowless was throwing a lot of money around," said Tutor, 70, recounting the 2010 investigation. "There was no paper trail. Witnesses refused to give sworn statements or testify in court. No one was going to admit they were paid \$5 to vote. But where there's that much smoke, there was fire."

Dowless did not respond Tuesday to a message seeking comment. His attorney, Cynthia Adams Singletary, issued a statement last month asserting that Dowless hasn't broken any campaign laws.

The AP first reported last month that North Carolina's top elections official issued an urgent plea nearly two years ago for the Trump administration to file criminal charges against

Dowless and others, warning in a January 2017 letter that those involved in illegally harvesting absentee ballots in Bladen would likely do it again if they weren't prosecuted. Investigators are now probing whether Dowless ran a sophisticated operation over multiple election cycles to collect absentee ballots from voters, potentially altering the selections or not turning them in to be counted. Under state law, it is illegal for anyone other than a voter or their immediate family to handle an absentee ballot before it is sealed and mailed.

Also at issue is whether Dowless was working part of a larger local political machine, including whether he could have had improper help from current or former Bladen County officials. The state Board of Elections refused to certify the results of the Nov.

6 vote where Republican Mark Harris leads Democrat Dan McCreedy by 905 votes, according to unofficial results. State investigators are also probing Dowless' work for Harris for the May 2018 Republican primary, in which he narrowly defeated incumbent U.S. Rep. Robert Pittenger.

Harris has admitted making the decision to hire Dowless after hearing about him from Bladen GOP officials, paying for the absentee ballot operation through a political consulting firm. Harris, a Baptist minister, has denied knowledge of any wrongdoing. He filed a lawsuit last week asking a state judge to order his certification as the winner of the November election. North Carolina's appointed elections board was dissolved earlier this month by a panel of three state judges who in October struck down the GOP-back

law that formed it as unconstitutional. A revamped board is due to be seated Jan. 31.

Democratic leaders in the U.S. House have said they won't allow Harris to take office because of the ongoing investigation. The U.S. Constitution makes the House the judge and final arbiter of its members' election contests.

Tutor, the former elections investigator, said he suspected in 2010 that political candidates or their supporters were funneling undisclosed cash to Dowless to fund efforts to influence votes.

"Dowless deals in cash," Tutor said. "He doesn't care about party affiliation. You show him the money, and he'll get the votes."

Years later, evidence surfaced that at least some political cash had been steered to Dowless that was never disclosed in campaign finance reports, as required by state law.

Jeffrey S. Smith, a Bladen County sweepstakes parlor operator, says he gave Dowless off-the-books cash in 2014. Smith testified as part of a lawsuit that he gave Dowless three cash payments totaling \$5,800 on behalf of current Bladen County Sheriff Jim McVicker, a Republican.

"Everybody will tell you that McCrae takes cash for work," Smith told AP in an interview last month, recounting the payments.

North Carolina's legislature has repeatedly voted to outlaw so-called sweepstakes games, which typically resemble video slot machines. But many of the operations have managed to stay open with court challenges, software tweaks and frequent political donations. □

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## 2nd suspect charged in shooting death of Jazmine Barnes

By JUAN A. LOZANO, Associated Press

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Authorities announced Tuesday that a second black man has been charged in the fatal drive-by shooting of a 7-year-old Houston black girl, whose death her family had initially believed was racially motivated.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office said 24-year-old Larry D. Woodruffe has been charged with capital murder in the Dec. 30 slaying of Jazmine Barnes.

Authorities previously said that they believe Woodruffe was the person in an SUV who fired upon Jazmine and her family as they drove to a grocery store. The driver of the SUV, 20-year-old Eric Black Jr. has also been charged with capital murder.

Authorities say Woodruffe and Black mistakenly thought they were attack-



The casket of Jazmine Barnes is removed from the funeral hearse to be taken inside the Community of Faith Church for a memorial service, Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2019, in Houston.

Associated Press.

ing people they'd previously fought at a club hours earlier when they shot at Jazmine and her family.

The family had described the shooter as a white man driving a red pickup truck, prompting concerns by

them and activists that her death was a hate crime. Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez said he believes

the family's initial description was sincere and the man in the red truck was likely a bystander who left the scene of the shooting.

Woodruffe was charged as Jazmine's funeral took place Tuesday afternoon, attended by hundreds of people at a Houston church.

Woodruffe and Black were both taken into custody on Saturday. The sheriff's office said they identified Woodruffe and Black as suspects based on a tip from social activist and writer Shaun King that was corroborated by their investigation.

While Black was charged on Sunday with capital murder, Woodruffe was being held in the county jail on a drug charge while authorities prepared a capital murder charge against him.

Court records did not list an attorney for Woodruffe. □

## Filing: Manafort gave 2016 polling data to Russian associate



In this May 23, 2018, file photo, Paul Manafort, President Donald Trump's former campaign chairman, leaves the Federal District Court after a hearing in Washington.

Associated Press

By MICHAEL BALSAMO, ERIC TUCKER and CHAD DAY, Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort shared polling data during the 2016 presidential campaign with a business associate accused of having ties to Russian intelligence, and prosecutors say he lied to them about it, according to a court filing Tuesday. The allegation marks the first time prosecutors have accused Trump's chief campaign aide of sharing information related to the election with his Russian contacts.

Although the filing does not say whether the polling information was public or what was done with it, it raises the possibility that Russia might have used inside information from Trump's Republican campaign as part of its effort to interfere with the election on Trump's behalf.

The information was accidentally revealed in a defense filing that was meant to be redacted.

The Associated Press was able to review the material because it wasn't properly blacked out.

Manafort was among the first Americans charged

in special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation and has been among the central characters in the case, having led the campaign during the Republican convention and as, U.S. intelligence officials say, Russia was working to sway the election in Trump's favor. Manafort has pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges in Washington and faces sentencing in a separate case in Virginia.

"These circumstances weighed heavily on Mr. Manafort's state of mind and on his memory as he was questioned at length," the lawyers wrote. □

# What air travelers should know about the government shutdown

By **DAVID KOENIG**, AP Airlines Writer

**DALLAS (AP)** — The partial government shutdown is starting to affect air travel. Over the weekend, some airports had long lines at checkpoints, apparently caused by a rising number of security officers calling in sick as they face the prospect of missing their first paycheck this week.

Safety inspectors aren't even on the job.

A Federal Aviation Administration spokesman said Monday that inspectors are being called back to work on a case-by-case basis, with a priority put on inspecting airline fleets.

So far, the most visible signs of the shutdown — in its 18th day yesterday — include the closure of some government buildings and national parks and trash overflowing bins on the National Mall in front of the Capitol.

By increasingly affecting air travel, however, the pain will be felt more widely.

Here are some common questions about the shut-



In this March 16, 2017, file photo, air traffic controllers work in the tower at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York.

down's impact on airports and travel, along with the answers:

## WHO IS SUPPOSED TO KEEP WORKING?

About 10,000 air traffic controllers who work for the Federal Aviation Ad-

ministration, about 51,000 Transportation Security Administration officers, and an undisclosed number of federal air marshals have been told to keep reporting to work because they are deemed essential. Government employees

have always been paid after past shutdowns ended, and that is the widespread expectation this time too.

## ARE THEY SHOWING UP?

TSA acknowledges that more screeners are calling in sick at some airports, including Dallas-Fort Worth International.

It gave few numbers but issued a statement Friday saying that more have been missing work since the Christmas and New Year's holidays. The TSA said the effect was "minimal."

Then over the weekend, travelers reported longer checkpoint lines at some airports, including LaGuardia in New York.

On Monday, TSA tweeted that agents screened 2.22 million passengers nationwide on Sunday, which it called a "historically busy day due to holiday travel." TSA said only about 220,000 travelers waited at least 15 minutes at checkpoints, while 0.2 percent — fewer than 5,000 — waited at least 30 minutes.

## HOW WILL TSA RESPOND TO NO-SHOWS?

Airport screeners start around \$24,000 and most earn between \$26,000 and \$35,000 a year, according to TSA.

That is far less than many

other government employees, making them more vulnerable if they don't get paid.

TSA spokesman Jim Gregory said officials are managing. "If we don't have appropriations by midweek or so, (officers) will miss their first paycheck. That's obviously where it becomes more difficult," he said.

Gregory said the agency has a team of officers who can go to airports facing a shortage, a tactic developed in case natural disasters prevented screeners from getting to work.

## WHAT ABOUT TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS?

About 1,900 air traffic controllers — nearly one in every five — are eligible to retire right now.

"I don't know how long they're going to stay on the job if they are not getting a paycheck," said Paul Rinaldi, president of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association.

There is an even larger group of recently hired trainees and apprentices, and Rinaldi said a long shutdown could cause some of them to take other jobs.

## WILL THE SHUTDOWN LEAD TO FLIGHT DELAYS?

Rinaldi said safety is not being compromised but that capacity to manage traffic could be reduced if the shutdown worsens an existing shortage of controllers. That could lead to flight delays, he said. Others are not so sure.

"It would have to get pretty bad before the government said (to airlines), 'Hey, start scaling back your plans for service,'" said Richard Aboulafia, an aviation analyst. "You could see that in a worst-case scenario."

An early test of the air traffic system could come around the Feb. 3 Super Bowl in Atlanta, when an influx of corporate jets and private planes will further crowd the sky above the nation's busiest airport.

Planning for handling that traffic has been put on hold, Rinaldi said. □

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# Asylum seekers find it's catch and can't release fast enough

By ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — President Donald Trump says he has ended “catch-and-release” for asylum seekers, but in cities on the U.S. border with Mexico it is catch and can't release fast enough.

Since late October, the U.S. has been releasing asylum-seeking families so quickly they don't even have time to make travel arrangements, which it blames on lack of detention space. Families are often given court dates without even having to pass initial screenings by asylum officers. They end up in shelters run by charities, or are dropped off at bus stations in border cities.

For one Salvadoran family that dizzying series of events began when their 7-year-old daughter, Yariza Flores, landed on barbed wire after being hoisted over a border fence during their illegal crossing last month. She was rushed to a San Diego hospital to stop profuse bleeding.

Just four days later, U.S. authorities dropped her off at a San Diego shelter with her parents and 3-year-old brother. They had no money, the clothes on their backs and an order given to them during their stint in U.S. custody to appear in immigration court in Houston, where they planned to live with Yariza's grandmother and two aunts. They didn't even have time to arrange for relatives to buy bus tickets before they were released.

“I feel happy because we're finally here, we're finally going to see my family,” the girl's mother, Tania Escobar, said in the shelter dining hall after a meal of shredded chicken, rice and beans. Her daughter sat nearby, all smiles, wearing a silver crown that a Border Patrol agent gave her and holding a stuffed animal from a doctor who treated the severe cuts on her lower back.

From California to Arizona to Texas, volunteers are scrambling to help fami-



In this Dec. 11, 2018, photo the parents of Yariza Flores, 11, show where the girl cut her torso as she landed on barbed wire while crossing the border illegally, after arriving from an immigration detention center to a shelter in San Diego.

Associated Press.

lies until they can arrange transportation to relatives across the U.S. The San Diego Rapid Response Network, an advocacy coalition that runs the shelter that housed Yariza and her family, has served more than 4,000 people since opening in a church in late October, moving five times since then because it ran out of space.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement often coordinates with these shelters. On the December night that Yariza arrived, ICE brought 125 people in buses that came every half-hour. One night during Christmas week, the facility received 180 people, forcing it to use a church for the overflow.

The situation belies Trump's assertion, in a November tweet, that “Catch and Release is an obsolete term. It is now Catch and Detain.” The Trump administration announced Dec. 20 that it would make asylum seekers who enter the U.S. on its southern border wait in Mexico while their claims wind through clogged immigration courts, which can take years. But that “catch and return” policy has yet to take effect while the two countries work on mechanics; a legal challenge appears likely.

So, for now, many asylum-

seeking families are being released in the U.S. before even they are ready. ICE dropped off hundreds of people daily at a bus station in El Paso, Texas, over the holidays. In Tucson, Arizona, charities have rented motel rooms when shelters are full.

“After decades of inaction by Congress, the government remains severely constrained in its ability to detain and promptly remove families with no legal basis to remain in the U.S.,” said ICE spokeswoman Sarah Rodriguez. “As a result, family units continue to cross the border at high volumes and are likely to continue to do so, as they face no consequence for their actions.” □

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# Winter storm blasts Europe; 13 dead amid heavy snow, gusts

By **KIRSTEN GRIESHABER**

**Associated Press**

**BERLIN (AP)** — Deadly winter weather blasted Europe for yet another day Tuesday, trapping hundreds of people in Alpine regions, whipping up high winds that caused flight cancellations and increasing the risks of more deadly avalanches.

In Norway, attempts to find the bodies of four skiers were again put on hold due to poor visibility and heavy snowfall. A 29-year Swedish woman and three Finns, aged 29, 32 and 36, were presumed dead after a 300-meter (990-foot) wide avalanche hit a valley near the northern city of Tromsø last week.

Romanian police on Tuesday found the frozen body of a 67-year-old man in a parking lot in the southern city of Slatina after his wife reported he hadn't returned from work. Temperatures in Romania plunged to a low of minus 24 Celsius (minus 11.2 Fahrenheit).

In Austria, hundreds of residents were stuck in their homes due to blocked roads and some regions experienced power outages



**A passenger train crosses the Cuha Valley in the heavy snowfall near Vinye, some 140 km west of Budapest, Hungary, Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2019.**

after snow-laden trees took down power lines.

Schools in some Austrian regions remained closed for a second day and homeowners were advised to remove snow from their roofs after several buildings collapsed. One 78-year-old man was severely injured when he fell off his roof in Turrach while shoveling snow, Austrian public broadcaster ORF reported.

On Monday night, 11 German hikers had to be rescued by mountaineers from a cabin near Salzburg, after having been snowed in without electricity and little food since Friday. Other people have also been killed by avalanches in Switzerland, Austria and Germany, and authorities warned that continuing snowfall is increasing the risk of more avalanches.

In the northern coastal German city of Hamburg, residents were preparing for a storm flood caused by a winter gale, the German news agency dpa reported.

In the Netherlands, Amsterdam's busy Schiphol Airport saw nearly 25 percent of its flights cancelled Tuesday. Dutch carrier KLM canceled 159 flights to and from European destina-

tions. Flight cancellations were also reported in Slovakia.

Low-lying Dutch coastal regions were being hit by strong winds and wild seas, and local water authorities were checking dikes holding back all that water to make sure they were not damaged.

The Noorderzijlvest water authority said it was monitoring dikes because of debris floating in the sea after 281 shipping containers tumbled off a cargo ship in a storm last week. Many of the containers are still at sea and some have broken open. "A fridge or container that is rammed against a dike can cause damage," the authority said.

Heavy snowfall and strong winds were reported Tuesday over central Scandinavia, hampering efforts to restore electricity that had gone out after another storm swept through on Jan. 2.

In Greece, schools in Athens and many surrounding areas remained closed after snow blanketed the capital. Some rural mountain roads were also closed. □

**Associated Press**

# France's Macron faces tough challenges at home and in Europe

By **SYLVIE CORBET**

**Associated Press**

**PARIS (AP)** — French President Emmanuel Macron is facing a mountain of challenges in the new year — starting with yellow vest protesters who are back in the streets to show their anger against high taxes and his pro-business policies that they see as favoring the wealthy rather than the working class.

Once Europe's rising star, Macron is now fighting to save his image and his vision for transforming France's welfare state and economic model. Here's a look at three major issues he will need to tackle in 2019:

## **YELLOW VEST CRISIS**

Since November, demonstrations initially triggered by a tax hike on diesel fuel and expanded to encom-



**In this Monday, Dec. 31, 2018 file photo, French President Emmanuel Macron gestures as he poses for a photograph after the recording of his New Year's speech at the Elysee Palace, in Paris, France.**

pass the high cost of living have led to violent clashes with police in Paris and other cities — including most recently on Saturday.

Macron made multiple concessions that failed to extinguish the anger of the yellow vest movement,

named after the fluorescent protective garments the protesters wear. He abandoned the tax hike and announced last month a series of measures to boost purchasing power. The package, estimated at 10 billion euros (\$11.5 bil-

lion), includes a 100-euro (\$114) monthly increase to the minimum salary. The big challenge now is containing the protest violence that's hitting Paris tourist quarters. In his New Year's speech, Macron adopted a tougher stance against any violence, denouncing "heinous crowds" and urging a restoration of order. Hoping to calm tensions, the government called on the French to express their views during a "national debate" organized in the coming weeks in all regions.

## **REFORMS AHEAD**

Despite the protests, Macron has vowed to keep reforming the country this year to fulfill some of his electoral promises. Planned changes concern highly inflammatory topics: an overhaul of the indebted pension system and of France's

relatively generous unemployment benefits.

The government wants to apply the same rules to all new pensioners in order to replace the dozens of different systems specific to certain jobs. Macron promised the legal retirement age will remain at 62 but the changes might reduce some other advantages.

The government also plans to apply stricter rules to obtain unemployment benefits. Other measures would allow job cuts among civil servants.

The government appears politically weakened by the yellow vest movement but can still pass new bills at parliament, where Macron's centrist party holds a strong majority. Macron and his parliamentary majority don't face new elections until 2022. □

**Associated Press**





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## Far-right German lawmaker is severely beaten in Bremen

By **GEIR MOULSON**  
**FRANK JORDANS**  
 Associated Press

**BERLIN (AP)** — A lawmaker from the far-right Alternative for Germany party was attacked and seriously wounded by several men in the northwestern city of Bremen in what police said Tuesday may have been a politically motivated assault. The beating of Frank Magnitz, a lawmaker in the national parliament who leads the party's branch in Bremen, drew condemnation from across the political spectrum.

"There's zero tolerance for violence, whoever is affected and wherever the violence comes from," German Interior Minister Horst Seehofer told The Associated Press.

Police said the 66-year-old Magnitz was beaten by three people in dark clothing and hoods or hats, who then fled. Two workers loading a car nearby found him on the ground and called an ambulance.

Surveillance video of the incident showed two people



Picture shows the entrance to a theatre where AfD politician Frank Magnitz was attacked Monday evening on Tuesday, Jan.8, 2019.

approaching Magnitz from behind, followed closely by a third person, the authorities said. One of them hit the lawmaker from behind, the video showed, and he fell and suffered a badly bleeding head wound.

Magnitz was hospitalized, and he told the dpa news agency that doctors want him to remain there until the weekend. He said he had little memory of the attack. His party, known by its German acronym AfD,

distributed a photo of him lying on a gurney, with a bloody, gaping wound on his head and his right eye bruised and swollen.

The AfD said Magnitz was ambushed after leaving a newspaper's New Year reception and beaten with a piece of wood. Police, however, said there was

no evidence so far that Magnitz was struck with a weapon.

Authorities appealed for witnesses to the attack, saying they're investigating whether Magnitz was attacked because of his political work, but haven't ruled out other possibilities.

"It was clearly an attempt to murder Mr. Magnitz," AfD co-leader Alexander Gauland told reporters in Berlin. "This is the result of the ostracism and agitation AfD faces," he said, suggesting other German political parties were partly responsible for the attack because they had compared AfD to Adolf Hitler's Nazi party because of its nationalist rhetoric and campaigns against migrants. Magnitz told dpa that while he had received threats, he hadn't considered any of them concrete.

The party claims there have been "hundreds" of attacks against its officers and members since its founding in 2013.

Last week, an explosion outside one of its offices in the eastern town of Doebeln damaged windows and doors. □

## German rescue groups say migrants' health worsening on ships

Associated Press

**BERLIN (AP)** — Two German nonprofit groups appealed to European Union countries Tuesday to take in 49 migrants waiting on rescue ships in the Mediterranean Sea, warning of the passengers' deteriorating health. Sea-Watch and Sea-Eye representatives told reporters in Berlin that drinking water was being rationed on their ships and some migrants were having trouble eating due to illnesses.

"Do people need to die

before a solution is found?" Sea-Watch member Erik Marquardt asked. A Sea-Watch crew rescued 32 migrants from a smugglers' boat on Dec. 22 within sight of Malta. Seventeen other people were picked up in the Mediterranean by a Sea-Eye crew on Dec. 29. Neither vessel has been granted authorization to dock and disembark the people on board. The Maltese government has said that before the two ships will be allowed to port, it wants

a deal spelling out how the 49 passengers and another 249 the island nation says its took in from recent sea rescues will be split up and relocated. Germany's interior minister said his country would be prepared to take in 50 people, but wants other EU nations to step up, too. "This doesn't mean 27 EU member states need to participate," Interior Minister Horst Seehofer told reporters. "But a presentable number of EU states should join in." □

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# Turkey slams US request for assurances on Syrian Kurds

By **ZEKE MILLER**  
Associated Press

**ANKARA, Turkey (AP)** — Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan accused the U.S. national security adviser of making “a very serious mistake” Tuesday by demanding that Ankara guarantee the safety of Kurdish fighters in northeastern Syria before the U.S. withdraws its troops from the war-torn country. A strained morning of negotiation in Turkey ended without assurances of protection for forces that fought alongside U.S. troops against the Islamic State group, and indeed brought them fresh new threats from Turkey. The diplomatic setback raised fresh questions about how the U.S. would protect its allies in the fight against IS and about the pace of the drawdown of U.S. forces in Syria. “John Bolton has made a very serious mistake. We cannot make any concessions in this regard,” Erdogan said Tuesday, just before Bolton left the country with tensions between the NATO allies at new highs. He added that Ankara’s preparations for a new military offensive against what the Turkish leader describes as terror groups in Syria are “to a large extent” complete. Bolton had insisted that Turkey refrain from conducting any operation unless it was approved by and coordinated with the U.S. Turkey’s presidential spokesman fired back publicly that Turkey would not seek permission from its allies to conduct a military offensive against Syrian Kurdish fighters, but was willing to coordinate operations. A senior administration official said Erdogan’s comments did not reflect President Donald Trump’s understanding of his Dec. 23 conversation with the Turkish leader, days after the U.S. president announced his intent to withdraw American troops from northeastern Syria. Trump “thought he got a commitment from Erdogan” to protect the Kurds, the official said,



**Turkey’s President Recep Tayyip Erdogan gestures as he delivers a speech to MPs of his ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) at the parliament in Ankara, Turkey, Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2019.**  
Associated Press

speaking on the condition of anonymity because the official wasn’t authorized to speak on the record. An official at Tuesday’s meeting between Bolton and senior Turkish officials said presidential spokesman Ibrahim Kalin stated that Erdogan committed that Turkey would not take offensive action while U.S. forces were there. Bolton departed Turkey without meeting with Erdogan in an apparent snub by the Turks — the meeting had been expected for days. A spokesman for Bolton said U.S. officials were told Erdogan cited the local election season and a speech to parliament for not meeting with him. In the more than two-hour meeting with Kalin, Bolton outlined five U.S. principles for the Syria drawdown, including that “the United States opposes any mistreatment of opposition forces who fought with us against ISIS.” In the high-stakes session in Ankara’s presidential complex, Bolton also rebuked Erdogan’s column in The New York Times, in which the Turkish leader restated his position that the Syrian Defense Forces were members of terrorist groups and criticized the U.S. air campaign against the Islamic

State. An official at the meeting said Bolton told Kalin that Erdogan’s op-ed was “wrong and offensive.” The official added that the U.S. stuck by Trump’s request that the Kurds who fought with the U.S. not be mistreated, and the Turks stuck by their position that the Kurds “are terrorist groups and they’re free to go after them.” Trump abruptly announced last month he intended to withdraw U.S. troops from Syria, and the U.S. has sent mixed signals over how soon that would be accomplished. Bolton’s trip to the Mideast was aimed at

assuring allies it would not be done precipitously. But Kalin told reporters after talks with Bolton there is no slowdown in the timetable for U.S. withdrawal from Syria. He said U.S. officials have said during their discussions that the withdrawal could take place within “120 days.” Kalin said talks with Bolton focused on how the U.S. would collect the weapons that were given to Kurdish militia fighting Islamic States as well as the future of U.S. bases in Syria. He said he handed over two dossiers to Bolton — one on Turkish help to Kurdish popula-

tions in Iraq and Syria, the other on the Kurdish militias’ “criminal activities and human rights violations.” A Bolton spokesman, Garrett Marquis, said in a statement that Bolton and Turkish officials “had a productive discussion of the President’s decision to withdraw at a proper pace from Northeast Syria.” But Erdogan, for his part, said Bolton had “made a very serious mistake. Whoever thinks this way is also mistaken. We cannot make any concession in this regard and those involved in a terror corridor” in Syria would “receive the necessary punishment.” Trump’s shifting timetable for pulling U.S. troops out of Syria has left allies and other players in the region confused and jockeying for influence over a withdrawal strategy that appeared to be a work in progress. Trump faced widespread criticism that he was abandoning the Kurds in the face of Turkish threats. Officials said at the time that although many details of the withdrawal had not yet been finalized, they expected American forces to be out by mid-January. After Bolton announced this week the U.S. pullout would not be as immediate as Trump had initially declared, U.S. allies were still seeking clarification from American diplomats. □

## Storm packing snow and rain paralyzes parts of Lebanon

**Associated Press**  
**BEIRUT (AP)** — A winter storm packing heavy rain and snow on Tuesday turned streets in Lebanon into rivers of water and mud and paralyzed parts of the country. Among those affected were tens of thousands of Syrian refugees, many of whom live in tent settlements. In the eastern Bekaa Valley, many Syrian refugees stayed indoors next to diesel or wood heaters as snow covered their flimsy

tents. Authorities closed the highway linking Beirut with the Syrian capital Damascus after parts of it that cut through high mountains became covered with snow. In the coastal town of Dbayeh, just north of Beirut, part of the highway was closed after it was filled with water. Rescuers later used small boats to help people stranded in their cars. Most schools were closed Tuesday and the Lebanese education minister called

for school to be closed even on the coast for a second day Wednesday. On Monday, a woman gave birth in an ambulance as it took a long time to reach a hospital because of snow. The woman and the baby later arrived at the nearby hospital and both are in good health, according to state-run National News Agency. The storm dubbed “Norma” began Saturday and is expected to reach its peak Tuesday night. □

# Kim Jong Un travels to China ahead of possible 2nd US summit

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN  
Associated Press

**BEIJING (AP)** — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was expected to meet Tuesday with China's president at the start of a visit to Beijing believed to be an effort to coordinate with his only major ally ahead of a possible second summit with U.S. President Donald Trump. Kim's trip, announced earlier by both sides, comes after U.S. and North Korean officials are thought to have met in Vietnam to discuss the site of a second summit.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang gave no details about Kim's schedule or China's role as an intermediary between the U.S. and North Korea. But he said Beijing remains supportive of efforts to end tensions over U.S. demands for a halt to North Korea's nuclear and missile programs.

"We always believe that, as key parties to the Korean Peninsula issue, it's important for the two sides to maintain contact and we always support their dialogue to achieve positive outcomes," Lu told reporters at a daily briefing.

He said further information about Kim's activities, the outcome of his meetings and a possible visit by Chinese President Xi Jinping to North Korea would be "released in due course."

A long motorcade thought to be carrying Kim, including motorcycle outriders reserved for state leaders, left a Beijing train station shortly after the arrival of an armored train consisting of 20 to 25 cars — most of whose windows were blacked-out — along tracks lined by police and paramilitary troops.

The North's Korean Central News Agency said Kim departed Monday afternoon with his wife, Ri Sol Ju, and other top officials. It said Kim is visiting China at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping. Tuesday also happens to be Kim's birthday.

Kim is expected to stay at the highly secure Diaoyutai



In this Monday, Jan. 7, 2019, photo provided on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2019 by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un walks with his wife Ri Sol Ju at Pyongyang Station in Pyongyang, North Korea, before leaving for China.

State Guest House in the capital's west, with meetings held at the Great Hall of the People, the hulking seat of the legislature that sits next to Tiananmen Square.

The trip marked a break with past practice in that it was announced in advance of Kim's arrival, a possible sign of growing confidence on the part of North Korea and China, the North's most important trading partner and a key buffer against pressure from Washington.

After years of cool relations following Kim's assumption of power 2011, ties have improved remarkably over the past year as Xi seeks to maintain his influence in the region.

Kim's trip comes as the U.S. and North Korea look to settle the North's decades-long pursuit of a nuclear arsenal. The U.S. and North Korea seemed close to war at points during 2017 as the North staged a series of increasingly powerful weapons tests that brought it closer to its nuclear goal of one day being able to target anywhere on the U.S. mainland.

Possibly fearing the economic effect of crushing outside sanctions imposed over his weapons tests, Kim abruptly turned to diplomacy with Seoul and Washing-

ton last year. He also visited China three times, notably without a reciprocal visit from Xi in a break with diplomatic convention.

But even after what was seen as a blockbuster summit between Kim and Trump in Singapore last June — the first ever be-

tween the leaders of the war enemies — there's been little real progress in nuclear disarmament.

Washington is pressing North Korea to offer up a detailed accounting of its nuclear arsenal, while the North says it has already done enough and it's time

for the U.S. to ease the harsh international sanctions that hold back the North Korean economy.

South Korean presidential spokesman Kim Eui-kyeom said Tuesday that Seoul hopes Kim's trip to China will act as a "stepping stone" for a second Trump-Kim summit.

Trump has offered assurances that another summit will allow him and Kim to make a grand deal to settle the nuclear standoff and change a relationship marked by decades of animosity and mistrust.

However, outside analysts are highly skeptical that North Korea will easily abandon a nuclear arsenal constructed in the face of deep poverty and likely seen by Kim as his only guarantee of regime survival.

Instead, Kim may be seeking to gauge China's attitude toward sanctions ahead of the talks, including what North Korea would have to concede in order to win Beijing's support at the U.N. □

Associated Press

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## US sanctions Venezuela TV magnate for alleged currency deals

By **JOSHUA GOODMAN**

**Associated Press**

**BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)**

— The Trump administration imposed sanctions Tuesday on a Venezuelan media magnate close to President Nicolas Maduro's government for allegedly being the ringleader of a graft network that stole \$2.4 billion from state coffers through corrupt currency deals.

The action by the U.S. Treasury Department gives Raul Gorrin and his business partner Gustavo Perdomo one year to divest their shares and control of Globovision in order to lift sanctions against Venezuela's largest private broadcaster. Globovision is among 24 companies and entities whose U.S. bank accounts will be frozen and barred from doing business in the U.S.

"Regime insiders have plundered billions of dollars from Venezuela while the Venezuelan people suffer," Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin said. "Our actions against this corrupt currency exchange network expose yet another deplorable practice that Venezuela regime insiders have used to benefit themselves at the expense of the Venezuelan people."

Prosecutors in Miami in-



In this Oct. 3, 2003 file photo, an employee at Globovision, a 24-hour television news channel, works behind a glass reading "News" with Globovision's logo "G" at the channel's headquarters in Caracas, Venezuela.

dicted Gorrin last year on charges of paying millions in bribes to senior officials in Venezuela's treasury for contracts to buy dollars at the highly overvalued official exchange rate. He then would allegedly resell the hard currency on the black market, turning a huge profit overnight. Treasury said Gorrin plowed the earnings into yachts, horses, private jets and a number of luxury properties in Miami and Manhattan. He also allegedly invested funds for other high-level

officials, including Supreme Court chief justice Maikel Moreno, and used the proceeds to buy gifts for first lady Cilia Flores.

Gorrin, Perdomo and Globovision didn't respond to a request seeking comment. The actions against Gorrin come as international pressure is building on Maduro, who is preparing to be sworn in Thursday for a second, six-year term considered illegitimate by the U.S. and more than a dozen regional governments.

In the run-up to the inaugu-

ration, which the U.S. has said will consolidate Maduro's path to "dictatorship," opponents have been urging even stronger action from the Trump administration, such as a ban on oil purchases from the OPEC nation or designating the Maduro government a state sponsor of terrorism. A senior U.S. official told The Associated Press that some sort of oil embargo remains under active consideration, as it has for months. The official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity for

**Associated Press**

lack of authorization to discuss policy options, added that there is increasing scrutiny of the Maduro government's alleged ties to Colombian rebels in a lawless, gold-rich area of southern Venezuela.

Maduro has accused the Trump administration of plotting with his opponents and conservative allies in Latin America to oust him from power by sabotaging an economy hurt by widespread food and medical shortages, as well as seven-digit inflation.

"The arbitrary measures taken against individuals really don't worry us," Vice President Delcy Rodriguez, one of dozens of high-ranking Venezuelan officials previously sanctioned by the U.S., said at a press conference.

Gorrin helped purchase Globovision in 2013 and softened anti-government coverage after becoming president of the popular TV network.

For example, on Saturday, the network aired a pre-recorded cooking show as the head of congress delivered a defiant speech against Maduro to kick off a new legislative session that several anti-government web-based broadcasters carried live. □

## Peru's attorney general resigns over corruption probe

**Associated Press**

**LIMA, Peru (AP)**

— Peru's attorney general resigned on Tuesday amid accusations that he hindered a corruption probe involving Brazilian construction giant Odebrecht.

In a letter presented to Peru's chief prosecutors, Chavarry said he was stepping down in order to preserve the autonomy of the Attorney General's Office and stop the country's president from intervening in other, independent branches of government.

Chavarry described himself as a "victim" of journalists, politicians and non-governmental organizations bent on having him removed from office and hounding



A demonstrator holds up a poster that reads in Spanish: "Get out Chavarry!", referring to Attorney General Pedro Chavarry, in Lima, Peru, Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019.

him for performing his constitutional duties.

Chavarry has repeatedly clashed with President Martin Vizcarra since being ap-

pointed to the three-year position by an independent panel in July. But Chavarry stayed in his post thanks to the support of two mayor

**Associated Press**

opposition parties, whose leaders are currently being investigated for allegedly taking bribes from Odebrecht. On New Year's eve, Chavarry dismissed two popular prosecutors who led the Odebrecht corruption probe, accusing Jose Domingo Perez and Rafael Vela of blocking his request for information on the case. He also said Perez made public statements that put his objectivity in doubt.

But the dismissal sparked street protests in several cities in which demonstrators accused Chavarry of trying to protect corrupt officials and called for his resignation.

Vizcarra said the removal of the prosecutors would

derail the investigation and immediately pushed for an overhaul of the Attorney General's Office, calling on congress to declare that office in a state of emergency.

Faced with those threats, Chavarry reinstated the prosecutors.

But as investigators turned their attention towards the attorney general and raided the offices of one of his closest aides, Chavarry decided that he could no longer keep his job.

"If I am the pretext for these illegal actions to be taken against the institution I represent, then it is best for me to step aside," Chavarry wrote in his resignation letter. □

# LOCAL



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## 7th Edition of ARUBA DOET 7th Edition of ARUBA DOET



**ORANJESTAD — CEDE Aruba in cooperation with the Oranje Fonds will be organizing ARUBA DOET, the biggest volunteer event on Aruba. The Netherlands and five Caribbean islands highlight these volunteer initiatives and they stimulate everyone to donate their time to help out the people who need it. This helps everyone! You can participate by registering as a volunteer or with a job to be done.**

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ARUBA DOET will take place on Friday and Saturday, March 15th & 16th, 2019. This is your chance to get your project small or big done. Register your project before January 11th 2019 to be eligible for ARUBA DOET 2019. To be able to fulfill all these jobs on March 15th and 16th, 2019 social organizations need a lot of resources. These may include materials such as paint or wood, but also groceries to provide refreshments or lunch for the volunteers. As company you are able to donate any material to benefit these project. You can expect much gratitude from the organization, the volunteers and the people to whom the activities benefit. Roll up your sleeve and volunteer. Participate with your family, colleagues, team mates or class mates. Get the job done and at the same time have a lots of fun. Register as a Volunteer to help out on any of the projects.

ARUBA DOET started in 2013 on the initiative of the Oranje Fonds. Under the names NLdoet (The Netherlands), ARUBA DOET (Aruba), CURA DOET (Curaçao), BON DOET (Bonaire), STATIA DOET (Sint Eustatius) and SXM DOET (Sint Maarten), these six initiatives highlight volunteering and

volunteers while encouraging everybody to roll up their sleeves for (part of) a day. With these six initiatives the Oranje Fonds is organizing the biggest volunteer event in the Kingdom in cooperation with thousands of social organizations and with the support of local partners such as CEDE Aruba.

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More information can be found on their facebook page ARUBA DOET or visit their website [www.arubadoet.com](http://www.arubadoet.com). □



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# Museum of Antiqueness “Our elderly”



**SAN NICOLAS — Meet Heintje Ras: An Aruban fireman with a passion for the Aruban Culture. His love for everything that has to do with our culture and heritage is visible in his day to day life at his own museum, Museo di Antiguedad “Nos Bieunan”, translated Museum of Antiqueness “our elderly”.**

Since an early age Ras has been fixing sewing machines. So whenever someone needed to fix a machine they would call him. While fixing a broken sewing machine at

a home some years back he saw that the owners of the house had a very old sewing machine thrown in the backyard and he asked if he can have it. He took it home, fixed it and from there he got the idea to start collecting old artifacts that people wanted to throw away or had no use for it. For Ras all these artifacts have a special meaning, a value, they all tell the story of our ancestors and our heritage. That is why he is trying to “rescue” all artifacts that tell a story of our past.

### Artifacts with a Story

The collection started in his garage at home. More and more artifacts were gathered and it even got so crowded that he started putting them in his living room and continued to spread all over the house. That is where the idea occurred to open up his house for the public. The need to educate especially children but also people of all ages about our history and our ancestors is what lead him to open his own museum at his house. He feels joy when seeing kids interested in knowing the history of the artifact, how it works, especially since youth nowadays only know the digital era and everything is so easy to use



and acquire. He also loves to share his knowledge of these artifacts and their original names in our Papiamentu language.

At his museum you will find artifacts dated from the early 1600's. From antique furniture, pots, pans, musical instruments, paintings, tools, lamps, sewing machines and so much more. There is a collection of around 1000 artifacts. He is in love with his whole collection but his favorite artifacts are a music box which was almost impossible for him to get but after a lot of negotiations he finally got it and also a

cash register of over 100 years old that took him 8 years to get in his possession.

He still has a dream he wants to see come true to have a “Museum on Wheels”. A bus with all kinds of artifacts that he can drive all around the island and take it to all schools and closer to the tourists.

The museum is located at Rooi Master 5E, near Savaneta.

For more information contact him on (+297)563-2121 or on Facebook at Museo di Antiguedad “Nos Bieunan”. Reservations are required. □





Today's Happening



A weekly calendar with a selection of what's going on in Aruba



**Wednesday 9  
Bohemian Restaurant**

- Enjoy the best paella on the island, wine-pairing, live flamenco & Rumba Gitana music and a beautiful garden at this new kid in town.
- Starts at 8:00 PM
- At the corner of Barcelo hotel, Palm Beach
- Facebook Bohemian



**Saturday 12  
Carnival Election Prince & Pancho**

- Tonight Aruba will be choosing the Prince & Pancho for Carnival 65. These are known as the jokers of Carnival. There are 3 different categories, children, youth and adults. Shows filled with lots of laughter and dancing.
- From 7:00 PM till 12:00 AM
- Carnival Harbour Arena, Oranjestad
- Facebook Clickcarnaval.com



**Thursday 10  
Caribbean Explosion**

- Palm Beach Plaza Mall invites you to the spectacular 'Caribbean Explosion' Show
- Starts at 8:00 PM
- Palm Beach Plaza Mall
- Facebook Palm Beach Plaza Mall

**Sunday 13  
Boatfest 2019**

- It's Boatfest time again. Gather up with friends and family and enjoy a lovely day at the beach, surrounded by boats, music, food and good entertainment!
- From 12:00 PM till 11:00 PM
- Surfside Beach, Oranjestad
- Facebook Boat fest 2019



**Monday 14  
California Lighthouse Experience**

- Climb to the top of the California Lighthouse to see the best views of the island!
- From 9 AM till 5 PM
- Hudishibana 2, Westpunt
- Facebook Aruba Walking Tours



**Friday 11  
HāiKobe Night at L.G. Smith Steakhouse**

- As the only restaurant in Aruba serving this famous Japanese steak; Indulge in its tenderness and admire the well-marbled texture accompanied by high-end wines. The perfect combination you don't want to miss.
- From 6:00 PM till 10:00 PM
- L.G. Smith's Steak & Chophouse, Renaissance
- Facebook L.G. Smith's Steak & Chophouse



**Tuesday 15  
Ling & Sons**

- Take advantage of the 20% discount on all fruits and vegetables. It's a great day for shopping.
- From 7:30 AM till 9 PM
- Schotlandstraat 41, Oranjestad
- Facebook Ling and Sons IGA Super Center

# SPORTS



San Jose Sharks' Evander Kane (9) fires the puck as Joonas Donskoi (27), skates to the net for a rebound goal against the Los Angeles Kings in the first period of an NHL hockey game in San Jose, Calif., Monday, Jan. 7, 2019.  
Associated Press

## Karlsson has 3 assists as Sharks top Kings 3-1

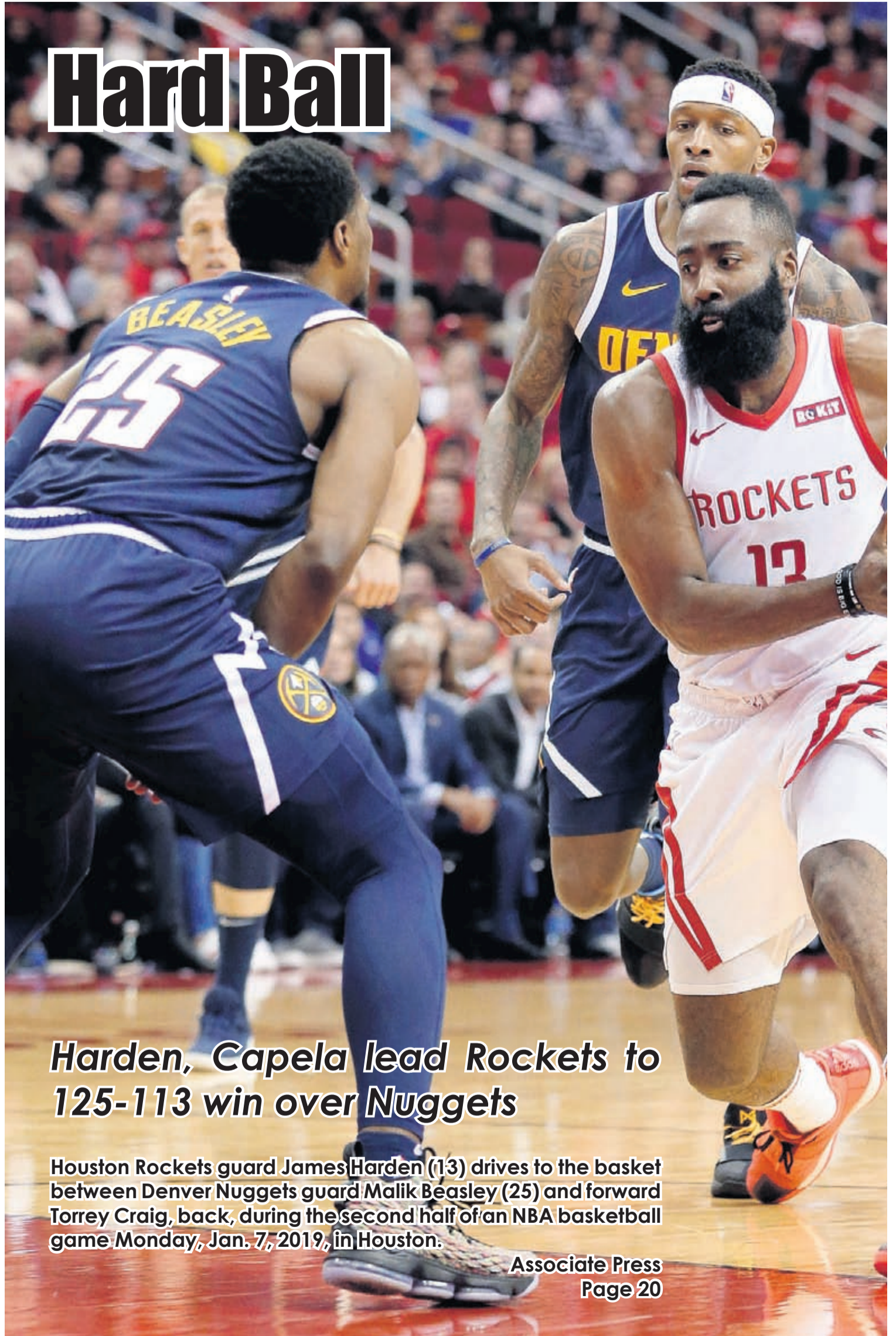
By GIDEON RUBIN  
Associated Press

**SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP)** — The blockbuster trade that sent Erik Karlsson to the San Jose Sharks during the off-season didn't pay immediate dividends. But the two-time Norris Trophy winner has emerged as one of the team's most impactful players lately. Karlsson had three assists, Tomas Hertl scored the go-ahead goal midway through the second period and the surging Sharks defeated the Los Angeles Kings 3-1 on Monday night. Joonas Donskoi and Joe Thornton also scored for San Jose. Martin Jones made 22 saves as the Sharks won their fifth in six games. Karlsson has at least one assist in 13 consecutive appearances going back to Dec. 7, with 22 points (one goal, 21 assists) during that stretch.

"I think we're starting to figure each other out there and it's nice to see when guys take advantage of the scoring chances that we got," Karlsson said.

Continued on Page 19

# Hard Ball



## Harden, Capela lead Rockets to 125-113 win over Nuggets

Houston Rockets guard James Harden (13) drives to the basket between Denver Nuggets guard Malik Beasley (25) and forward Torrey Craig, back, during the second half of an NBA basketball game Monday, Jan. 7, 2019, in Houston.

Associate Press  
Page 20

## San Jose Sharks vs. Los Angeles Kings

Continued from Page 18

"There weren't too many out there today, and it was a perfect game for us."

Karlsson, acquired from the Ottawa Senators in September, got off to a slow start with San Jose. He had just 15 points (two goals, 13 assists) through his first 27 games with his new team. But he has 13 assists in his last six games.

"He just plays great two-way hockey," Donskoi said. "I feel like he's great defensively, but also of course he has the amazing skills in the offensive zone and he can score goals and make some unreal passes. It's been great to watch him play." Anze Kopitar had a goal and Jack Campbell turned back 26 shots for the Kings, who have lost three of four.

"San Jose is a good team. They have a lot of depth," Kings coach Willie Desjardins said. "This is a hard building to come into and I thought we showed a lot of energy. All four lines played well. We had a good start in the first period and I thought that was going to



San Jose Sharks' Evander Kane (9) celebrates with Joonas Donskoi (27) who scored goal against the Los Angeles Kings in the first period of an NHL hockey game in San Jose, Calif., Monday, Jan. 7, 2019.

be a key." Hertl scored his 15th goal at 9:09 of the second period.

He scooped up a pass from Karlsson as he crossed the blue line and drove to the net, slipping a backhand past Campbell.

San Jose led going into the first intermission on Donskoi's 11th goal with 2:17 left in the first period. It was his fifth in five games.

The Kings evened it at 3:42 of the second on Kopitar's 11th goal and second in two games, which tied him with Dustin Brown for the

team lead. Thornton added an empty-netter — his seventh goal — with 20 seconds left. The Sharks were coming off an inspired effort Saturday, when they

ended Tampa Bay's NHL-best 16-game point streak, and coach Peter DeBoer acknowledged he didn't know what to expect from his team on Monday.

"We had an emotional win the other night and you always wonder how you're going to come back," DeBoer said.

"I think playing L.A. helped with that because we know it's going to be a hard game, you're going to show up and play a man's game against them in order to have some success. I thought we did a good job tonight."

The West Coast rivals played a predictably physical game. "It's the San Jose Sharks and the Los Angeles Kings. It's a rivalry game and as much as we

respect them, we hate them," Kings defenseman Drew Doughty said.

"We're chasing them trying to get back to a playoff spot. Emotions run high and sometimes it gets chippy. I love a chippy game."

NOTES: Sharks forward Melker Karlsson played in his 300th NHL game. ... San Jose D Radim Simek was in the lineup for the first time since suffering a concussion on Dec. 31. ... Sharks defensemen Marc-Edouard Vlasic (wrist) and Justin Braun (knee) worked out on the ice after Monday's skate. Braun is an injured reserve.

### UP NEXT

Kings: Host the Ottawa Senators on Thursday.

Sharks: Host the Edmonton Oilers on Tuesday. □

## Sri Lanka's Angelo Mathews to miss 2-test tour of Australia

### Associated Press

**SYDNEY (AP)** — Former captain Angelo Mathews has a hamstring injury and won't be part of the Sri Lanka squad for its two-test series in Australia.

Team officials said Wednesday that Mathews tweaked his hamstring during Sri Lanka's tour of New Zealand and that he had been left out of a 16-man squad for tests in Brisbane and Canberra.

Mathews was Sri Lanka's highest run-scorer in their two-test series against New Zealand, during which he was dismissed once while scoring 258 runs. After a drawn first test, New Zealand took the series 1-0 with a 423-run win in the second test.

Left-hander Kusal Perera has been included in the squad at the expense of opener Danushka Gunathilaka, who scored 16 runs from the two tests against New Zealand.

Sri Lanka has lost 11 tests and drawn two in Australia, a country it has been touring since 1988.

Sri Lanka currently holds the Warne-Muralitharan trophy, having beaten Australia 3-0 during a home series in 2016. The first test, a day-night match at the Gabba in Brisbane, starts on Jan. 24. The second test begins at Canberra's Manuka Oval on Feb. 1.

Sri Lanka will also play a day-night pink ball tour match in Hobart beginning Jan. 17. □

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## NBA Capsules

By The Associated Press

**HOUSTON (AP)** — James Harden scored 32 points, Clint Capela added a career-high 31 and the Houston Rockets beat the Denver Nuggets 125-113 on Monday night.

P.J. Tucker set a career best with seven 3-pointers and scored a season-high 21 points to help Houston win for the 12th time in 14 games. Capela had 19 points by halftime as Harden fed him again and again when Denver double-teamed him behind the 3-point line.

Gerald Green had 21 points and six 3s on a night when Houston made 22 for its sixth game this season with at least 20.

Nikola Jokic scored 24 points for the Nuggets, who

had a five-game winning streak snapped.

Harden had 14 assists, six 3-pointers and scored at least 30 points for the 13th straight game.

**BUCKS 114, JAZZ 102**

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** — Giannis Antetokounmpo had 30 points and Malcolm Brogdon scored 21 to lead Milwaukee past Utah.

Thon Maker added a season-high 15 points off the bench for the Bucks, who were coming off a loss to Toronto on Saturday night. Milwaukee improved to 28-11, the second-best record in the NBA. Donovan Mitchell scored 26 points and Rudy Gobert had 14 points and 15 rebounds for the Jazz, who lost starting point guard Ricky Rubio to a right hamstring injury less



Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic, right, looks to pass the ball as Houston Rockets guard James Harden, left, defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game Monday, Jan. 7, 2019, in Houston.

than five minutes into the game. He didn't return. Antetokounmpo grabbed 10 rebounds before foul-

ing out with 42.9 seconds remaining.

**CELTICS 116, NETS 95**

**BOSTON (AP)** — Kyrie Irving returned after missing two games with an eye injury and scored 17 points to lead eight players in double figures as Boston beat Brooklyn.

Jayson Tatum added 16 points for the Celtics, who won their third straight game.

Irving was out after scratching both corneas in a collision Dec. 31 at San Antonio.

**SPURS 119, PISTONS 107**

**DETROIT (AP)** — DeMar DeRozan scored 26 points, and coach Gregg Popovich moved another step higher on the NBA's career wins list as San Antonio defeated Detroit. Popovich has 1,221 victories. He's tied with Jerry Sloan for third place, trailing only Don Nelson and Lenny Wilkens.

A 23-2 run spanning parts of the first and second quarters put the Spurs up 45-33.

LaMarcus Aldridge scored 25 points for San Antonio. Blake Griffin had 34 for the Pistons, and Andre Drummond added 19 points and 14 rebounds. San Antonio was without forward Rudy Gay, sidelined with a sprained left wrist, but the Spurs still won a season-high fifth straight game. Detroit has lost seven of nine.

**PELICANS 114, GRIZZLIES 95**

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Anthony Davis had 36 points, 13 rebounds and three blocked shots, and New

Orleans pulled away from reeling Memphis down the stretch. Mike Conley had 22 points and 10 assists for the Grizzlies, not nearly enough to stem what is now a six-game slide.

**LAKERS 107, MAVERICKS 97**

**DALLAS (AP)** — Brandon Ingram scored 29 points and Lonzo Ball added 21 as Los Angeles handed Dallas a rare home loss.

The two young Lakers responded to coach Luke Walton's demand for more passion after a blowout loss to Minnesota on Sunday. The duo helped rally Los Angeles from a double-digit halftime deficit.

The Lakers won for just the second time in seven games since LeBron James strained his groin on Christmas Day, and they swept the season series from the Mavericks 3-0.

Luka Doncic scored 27 points to lead Dallas, which fell to 16-4 at home.

**TRAIL BLAZERS 111, KNICKS 101**

**PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)** — Jusuf Nurkic had 20 points and eight rebounds as Portland beat New York.

Damian Lillard added 17 points and nine assists for the Trail Blazers, who have won four of five. CJ McCollum also scored 17. Nurkic had his fourth straight game with 20 or more points.

Enes Kanter had 18 points and 14 rebounds off the bench for the Knicks, who have lost nine of 10. It was his third straight double-double. □

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# Harrington takes 'daunting' role of Europe Ryder Cup captain

By STEVE DOUGLAS  
AP Sports Writer

Padraig Harrington barely raised a smile as he spoke for the first time as Europe's new Ryder Cup captain.

In fact, as he discussed his thought process before accepting the position, the challenge awaiting him over the next 20 months and its potential impact on his golfing legacy, the role already seemed something of a burden for the easygoing Irishman.

"It's not something I take on without a certain amount of trepidation," Harrington, a three-time major champion, said.

He used the word "daunting." He acknowledged he was putting his golfing status on the line. He questioned whether he would find the "edge" needed to lift Europe to a win over what will be a strong American team at Whistling Straits in 2020. So did he really want a job that will consume his life and effectively put his playing career on hold for the next two years?

"I was certainly thinking and considering it," he said, when asked if he contemplated turning the offer down. "I don't think I ever thought I wasn't going to do it, but I wanted to make sure I was doing it for the



Padraig Harrington holds the Ryder Cup for the media at the Wentworth Golf Club, south England, Tuesday Jan. 8, 2019.

right reasons.

"I wanted to be clear that I didn't just walk into this because it was the next thing in my career, but that I believed in it and wanted it." Harrington did say he felt it was the right time to become captain. He played in six straight Ryder Cups from 1999 and was on the winning team four times, collecting 10 1/2 points. He has served as vice-captain for the past three Ryder Cups, most recently under Thomas Bjorn last year

when Europe regained the trophy outside Paris.

He has learnt from some of the great European captains and golfing figures — Bernhard Langer, Colin Montgomerie, Paul McGinley — and said he will take little bits from each in a bid to maintain Europe's dominance in the event.

The Europeans have won nine of the last 12 Ryder Cups.

But as something of a perfectionist and an over-thinker, Harrington said he

was concerned about the facets of the job that were "outside my control."

"I have had a successful career, and you want to always be successful in the golfing sphere because of what I've done," he said. "But I think more of it is you are trying to beat a U.S. team away from home. They are great players, a great team. It's just not an easy task. I am well aware that it's a win or nothing. It is daunting.

"I am aware that I could

have passed up on this and just kept on going as a nice tournament golfer. I am, as a Ryder Cup captain, putting a lot of the history of your game, your legacy, on the line."

Harrington has been encouraged by what he said was the "unanimous" support of Europe's players and former captains. He had been the overwhelming favorite to replace Bjorn, especially after Lee Westwood said he preferred to be captain in the 2022 match in Italy.

"I know they want continuity," Harrington said, referring to Europe's top players, "and it is a very important thing. Their confidence in me is hopefully going to be well-placed. It does make my job easier. They have spoken to me publicly and privately." The last of Harrington's 30 professional wins, which included three victories in a span of six majors across 2007-08, came at the Portugal Masters in 2016. He finished 2018 as the world's 191st-ranked player, his lowest end-of-year ranking since 2014, and it is likely to be even lower when the Ryder Cup rolls around.

Bjorn went to Paris as a career-low No. 853 in the world. □

Associated Press

## David Wright to become New York Mets special adviser



In this Sept. 30, 2018, file photo, New York Mets' David Wright returns to the dugout after an on-field ceremony during a baseball game against the Miami Marlins in New York.

Associated Press

Associated Press  
NEW YORK (AP) — Former New York Mets captain David Wright is becoming

a special adviser to chief operating officer Jeff Wilpon and general manager Brodie Van Wagenen.

In making the announcement Monday, the Mets said the 36-year-old third baseman would be placed on unconditional release waivers on Tuesday. His contract called for New York to pay him salaries of \$15 million this year and \$12 million in 2020, with \$2.5 million annually deferred without interest. Sidelined with leg, back and neck injuries, Wright did not play for the Mets from May 2016 until the final week of last season, when he announced his retirement. Wright made three plate appearances during the season's final series against Miami. Wilpon called Wright "an

iconic Met" and said he "will be forever remembered for his contributions on the field as well as his numerous charitable endeavors."

Wright attended last month's winter meetings as a member of the Mets' front office.

"We are thrilled he will remain close to the Mets family and will be a great asset in this new role," Wilpon said.

A seven-time All-Star, Wright set Mets records for hits (1,777), doubles (390), runs (949) and RBIs (970).

"I will always be tremendously grateful for the way the fans treated me because playing in this city

and for this team was a dream come true," Wright said in a statement issued by the team.

"I look forward to contributing and taking on the challenges of this new role."

Wright and the Mets agreed to restructure his contract to defer more of this year's salary.

The \$138 million eight-year deal originally called for a \$15 million in salary this year and \$12 million in 2020, with \$2.5 million annually deferred without interest. The contract included \$15.5 million in deferred money to be paid in \$3.1 million installments each June 30 from 2021-25. □

# MLB payrolls dropped for 1st time since 2010

By **RONALD BLUM**  
AP Baseball Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)**— Spending on Major League Baseball payrolls dropped last season for the first time since 2010, an \$18 million decrease attributable to drug and domestic violence suspensions and a player retiring at midseason.

Still, even a year with flat payrolls is unusual for MLB. The only previous drops since 2002 were by \$3 million in 2010 and by \$32 million in 2004.

Teams combined to spend \$4.23 billion on major league payroll last year, according to final figures compiled by the commissioner's office and obtained by The Associated Press. The decrease followed an offseason with a weak free-agent class that failed to push the average higher.

Seattle second baseman Robinson Cano lost about \$11.7 million and Chicago White Sox catcher Welington Castillo approximately \$3.5 million after positive drug tests. Closer Roberto Osuna's domestic violence suspension cost him roughly \$2.1 million from Toronto and Houston, and Baltimore outfielder Colby Rasmus walked away from about \$1.5 million rather than try to come back from a hip injury.

World Series champion Boston had the highest payroll for the first time since the free-agent era started in 1976 at \$230 million. In a sign of increasing parity, a record 24 teams had \$100 million payrolls, and the Red Sox figure was the lowest for the top big league payroll since 2012. Luxury tax surcharges that started for the 2017 season appear to have changed behavior of high-revenue teams.

MLB Deputy Commissioner Dan Halem said the slice of revenue going to major and minor league players last year was 54.2 percent, the same as in 2012. He cited a \$9.4 billion revenue figure for 2018, up from \$9.1 billion in 2017, and luxury tax payrolls, which use average annual values of



From left are 2018 file photos showing Robinson Cano, Welington Castillo, Roberto Osuna and Colby Rasmus.

contracts and include benefits. MLB pegged the average salary increase at 29.1 percent since 2012 and the average luxury tax payroll rise since then at 28.4 percent. "So although the top payroll in 2018 was the lowest since 2012, the average payroll has increased significantly, which means MLB has had payroll compression — which is a good thing for competitive balance," he said.

Union head Tony Clark declined to comment, spokesman Chris Dahl said. Agent Scott Boras claimed the players' portion of the money has declined.

"The luxury tax, the new elements have dramatically quelled the market," he said. "The allocation of revenues to payroll has gone down."

Both sides agree on one fact: The pace of free-agent signings has slowed dramatically in recent offseasons. Jeff Berry, an agent who co-heads CAA Baseball, suggested a call to action in a memo he circulated last year that included suggestions such as boycotting marketing appearances and delaying arrival at spring training until the mandatory report date in late February.

"Despite increasing MLB revenues and franchise valuations, in this new world order of analytics, aging curves, tanking, shifting, openers, bull-penning, declining attendance and declining salaries, players should and do feel vulnerable and unsure," he wrote. "Rather than saber rattling about a potential strike in three years, the focus

should be on taking proactive steps to address current labor issues in the hope of avoiding a strike in 2021." San Francisco had the second-highest regular payroll at \$210 million, followed by the Chicago Cubs at \$199 million.

The Los Angeles Dodgers dropped to fourth at \$196 million after leading the major leagues for four straight years. The Dodgers, who spent a record \$291 million in 2015, cut by \$48 million from 2017 and had their smallest payroll since 2012, yet they won a second straight NL pennant. Washington was fifth at \$185 million, followed by the New York Yankees at \$183 million — a drop of more than \$25 million from 2017 and their smallest since 2003. The Yankees had not been as low as sixth since they were ninth in 1992 at \$34.5 million in the final season of owner George Steinbrenner's 2½-year suspension.

Just five of the top 10 spenders made the playoffs, with San Francisco and Washington missing along with the Los Angeles Angels (seventh at \$177 million), St. Louis (eighth at \$166 million) and Seattle (10th at \$162 million).

Other playoff teams included Colorado (14th at \$148 million), Cleveland (15th at \$146 million), Atlanta (20th at \$127 million), Milwaukee (22nd at \$108 million, up \$40 million from 2017's big league low) and Oakland (28th at \$78 million).

Tampa Bay had the lowest payroll for the first time since 2007, at \$75.1 million finishing \$92,526 below the

are deferred are discounted to reflect present-day values.

The average salary dropped for the first time since 2004 and for only the fourth time since record-keeping started 50 years ago, according to players' association calculations. The union pegged its average at \$4,095,686, down \$1,436 from last year.

Since the union started keeping track in 1967, the only previous declines had been by \$66 in 1987, when owners were found to have conspired to hold down salaries among free agents; a 5 percent decline in 1995 following a 7½-month strike that wiped out the World Series for the first time since 1904; and by 2.5 percent in 2004. □

Associated Press

Chicago White Sox.

Payrolls are for 40-man rosters and include salaries and prorated shares of signing bonuses, earned incentive bonuses, non-cash compensation, buyouts of unexercised options and cash transactions. In some cases, parts of salaries that

## Olympic water polo champion Antal Bolvari dies at 86



In this picture taken on Jan. 28, 2010 Olympic champion Hungarian water polo player Antal Bolvari is seen at an exhibition in the National Museum of Ethnography in Budapest, Hungary.

Associated Press

**BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP)** — Antal Bolvari, a two-time Olympic water polo champion who scored a goal in Hungary's famous 4-0 win over the Soviet Union in the "Blood in the Water" match at the 1956 Melbourne Games, has died. He was 86.

Bolvari, who won gold at both the 1952 and 1956 Olympics, died Tuesday in the hospital after a long,

undisclosed illness, his family said.

The Olympic semifinal match against the Soviet Union, just weeks after the Soviets crushed the 1956 Hungarian uprising, turned violent and became known as the "Blood in the Water" match after Hungarian player Ervin Zador bled profusely from cuts around his right eye after being punched by an opponent.

Hungary went on to defeat Yugoslavia 2-1 in the final.

Like several of his teammates, Bolvari defected to the West after the Olympics, living in Australia for five years. Returning to Hungary, he played for club teams Vasas, Spartacus and Ferencváros.

After his playing career, Bolvari coached Spartacus and Honved, as well as Hungary's junior squad. In the early 1980s, he was also an assistant to head coach Mihaly Mayer with Hungary's senior squad. Bolvari was also an officer in the Hungarian army, dedicated to sports.

Bolvari was born May 6, 1932, in the southwestern city of Kaposvár. □

## Egypt to host African Cup; Salah's chance to shine at home

By **GERALD IMRAY**  
AP Sports Writer

Egypt will replace Cameroon as the host of this year's African Cup of Nations soccer tournament, giving newly-crowned continental player of the year Mohamed Salah a chance to shine on his home stage. The Liverpool forward was awarded the Confederation of African Football's top player award for a second successive year hours before the announcement about the new tournament host on Tuesday.

Salah will undoubtedly be the face of the tournament in June and July, but Egypt's organizers face a tough task to get ready with kickoff only five months away. Deepening the challenge for the stand-in host country, this will be the first African championship to be increased from 16 to 24 teams.

The tournament also arrives in Egypt at a time of political unease after years of turmoil following a revolution and the overthrow of President Hosni Mubarak in 2011. Egypt's streets have



Liverpool's Mohamed Salah takes a shot as he warms up ahead of the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester City and Liverpool at the Etihad stadium, Manchester England, Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019.

been marred by deadly violence in the years since and it has sometimes spilled over onto the soccer field. In 2012, more than 70 fans were killed in a riot at a game in the northern city of Port Said, one of world

soccer's worst riots. Port Said has been put forward by Egyptian organizers as a venue.

Still, African soccer leaders decided on Tuesday that Egypt was the best choice, with doubts over

whether the competing bid from South Africa, the 2010 World Cup host, had any government approval or financial backing.

Also, CAF is based in Cairo, giving the Egyptian bid a logistical advantage.

Cameroon was stripped of hosting rights late last year because of poor preparations and its own political problems, which involve long-running violent clashes between separatist rebels and government forces in the western parts of the country and close to two of the planned tournament host cities. It was the fourth straight African Cup of Nations to be switched from its initial host country, with CAF also having to find new venues for its top tournament and money-earner in 2013, 2015, and 2017. All of those switches were for political reasons.

Egypt and South Africa were the only two countries to submit bids to replace Cameroon in a new, rushed hosting process for 2019. Egypt, which last hosted the African championship in 2006, was chosen after a vote of the CAF executive committee in Dakar, Senegal, a vote initially scheduled for Wednesday but brought forward 24 hours. Egypt won overwhelmingly, by 16 votes to one with one abstention. □

## Kerber into Sydney quarters; Stephens recovers to advance

Associated Press

**SYDNEY (AP)** — Defending champion Angelique Kerber moved into the Sydney International quarterfinals after beating Camila Giorgi 7-6 (3), 6-2 on Tuesday.

The second-ranked Kerber was under serious pressure in the first set before holding firm in the tiebreaker, then went down an early break before winning the last six games.

After a first-round bye, the Wimbledon champion is on a 5-0 roll to start the season after winning all of her singles matches at the Hopman Cup last week.

"It's always tricky to play against her, because she's hitting the balls really hard, especially in the first set," Kerber said. "I played Perth last week, but now you have the tournament feeling again."

Sloane Stephens dropped three service games in the



Angelique Kerber of Germany hits a backhand to Camila Giorgi of Italy during their women's singles match at the Sydney International tennis tournament in Sydney, Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2019.

Associated Press

first set and was only two points from defeat in the second before finding a way to hold off Ekaterina

Alexandrova 0-6, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (3) for her first win of the season.

Alexandrova had a

chance to serve for the match at 5-3 in the second set and led 4-2 in the third but fourth-seeded Ste-

phens, the 2017 U.S. Open champion, rallied to survive the round.

"I was, like, 'It's not going to get any worse than this ... I might as well just play,'" Stephens said of her first set. "I know at some point that I'd be able to win a game, I would hope, so just try and do that."

Stephens will next play Yulia Putintseva.

Ash Barty ousted 2017 French Open winner Jelena Ostapenko 6-3, 6-3 to advance to a second-round meeting with No. 1-ranked Simona Halep.

On another rain-interrupted day in Sydney, Aliaksandra Sasnovich ousted No. 8-seeded Daria Kasatkina 6-1, 6-4, 2015 Sydney champion Petra Kvitova had a 6-1, 7-5 win over Aryna Sabalenka, Hsieh Su-wei beat Danielle Collins 7-6 (4), 6-3, and Priscilla Hon defeated Tatjana Maria 6-3, 7-6 (4). □



**By: Dr Carlos Viana**

Social researchers tell us that less than three percent of New Year's resolutions are accomplished. These are odds that are not exciting and reflect a weak character of most people, or the lack of information on how to accomplish your wishes. Both Phyllis and I believe most resolutions that are not accomplished are due to how we make our resolutions.

The first setback is that our resolutions are usually made in the future. We say "this year I am going to ..." Unfortunately, your subconscious, the strongest part of you lives in "the now" and does not understand the future, only the present moment. There is a good reason for this. Stop and think for a moment. Your breathing, heartbeat, digestion of food, repairing your body, who is doing all of these things? Certainly not the "you" that is reading this article, you are much too busy living your life. However, these activities that are taking place in your body, that you think are automatic are generously provided for you by your subconscious.

Your subconscious works under the principle of homeostasis. This wonderful word was developed in 1932 by Walter Cannon from the Greek homoios (same, like, resembling) and stasis (to stand, posture). You computer and electronics geeks will understand "default setting", which is the "same posture" or position as it came out of the factory. Thus, your subconscious regulates your internal body

**Starting with Gratitude**

functions to maintain a stable, constant condition right now; not later.

You do not tell your subconscious that later you will need a faster heartbeat because you will be taking a fast walk. Instead of saying "this year I am going to stop smoking; which, by the way, is the greatest thing you can do to improve your health, you say "I am full of gratitude that I no longer smoke!" When you feel the urge, because your subconscious has been programmed to flood your midbrain with nicotine at intervals, you say "Ah, how thankful I am that I am no longer a smoker". Or "Every day, in every way, I do what is necessary to have a healthy mind, body and spirit" Now here are decisions and new commands which your subconscious can use to reset your body.

If you are getting a sense that homeostasis is all about balance, you would be correct. The ability to balance is one of our physiological senses. It allows us to walk without falling. Some animals are better in this than humans, for example allowing a cat to walk on a thin fence.

In the metaphysical or conceptual sense, balance is used to mean a point between two opposite forces that is desirable over purely one state or the other, such as a balance between the metaphysical Law and Chaos — law by itself being overly controlling, chaos being overly unmanageable, balance being the point that minimizes the negatives of both. It could be as simple as the equilibrium between yin and yang energy. "Being in balance" means "health" for us Traditional Chinese Medicine physicians.

Only when we have our balance does this stability allow us to leap forward. Can you take a jump when you feel like you are falling? Similarly, no matter how bad your habits, your vices, how badly you feel about yourself, take a moment to accept yourself and start where you are when you make this New Year's resolutions. Remember, what you think about yourself is how your subconscious also views you.

Of course, for your subconscious to be able to regulate your internal body func-

tions to maintain a stable, constant condition it needs to be able to adapt to different conditions you are asking of your body. Some people, not having done the best for their body have lost the ability to walk up a flight of stairs, since their lungs and heart are now inflexible in their ability to handle more work. We can all learn the secret of the success attitude of our subconscious, which is its ability and willingness to change. Adaptability is a powerful tool and being ready, able, and willing to change is firm footing for us to move forward.

When you give gratitude for allowing adaptability and balance to come into your life as a wonderful New Year's resolution it opens the door for inner calmness and allows unconditional respect for others. Being ready, able, and willing to change is to start living your life intelligently. Get The Point! We invite you to make 2019 your personal "Year of Healing", a time in which you can make the small lifestyle changes that can make a big difference in your level of vitality, health and well-being. In our clinic we provide holistic assessment and life-balance program designed to help you gain personal insight into your state of physical, emotional, and spiritual wellness. Our program then offers guidance and tools to transform this new awareness into lasting changes in your life, and a renewed sense of health and wellbeing. □

**CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270, Web Site: [www.vianaheal.com](http://www.vianaheal.com)**

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# Millennial Money: How to buy happiness

By **GREGORY KARP**  
Associated Press

If you have a few extra bucks that you don't need for necessities like rent or loan payments, consider shopping for happiness.

From ancient philosophers to current experts in behavioral economics, people have been pondering the link between money and happiness. Among them is author Gretchen Rubin, who thinks about happiness for a living. She's written several books on happiness, including "The Happiness Project" and the forthcoming "Outer Order, Inner Calm." She helped think through the question of whether you can use discretionary money to buy happiness. Short answer: probably not.

A lifetime happiness shopping list might go like this.

**— BUY BETTER RELATIONSHIPS.**

Key to happiness is how you deal with other humans. It's a recurring theme. "So if you're spending your money to broaden relationships or deepen relationships, that's a good way to spend your money," Rubin said. Use discretionary money to attend a college reunion or a friend's destination wedding. A corollary, especially for younger adults: Buy a social life. Young adults often experience an intense period of socializing with friends, searching for life partners and networking for career opportunities — all potential sources of happiness. Maybe increase social bar-and-restaurant spending or pay for a dating app.

**— BUY EXPERIENCES**

**— AND SOME THINGS.**

The usual advice is "buy experiences, not things." But that requires a deeper dive. "What I find is often the line between experiences and things is not that clear," Rubin said. A bicycle can provide an experience, and a new camera can preserve one. So buy experiences, especially with other people, but also think about buying material things that allow you to have experiences or enhance them.



In this Nov. 13, 2018, photo Vitalii Myroshnychenko, right, test rides a bike atop a stand as Denis Rybalchenko looks on in REI Co-op's flagship store in Seattle.

**— BUY SOLUTIONS.**

Also known as "throw money at the problem" or "buy back time." "One thing that makes people happier is to feel they have control over their time and they're not doing boring chores," Rubin said. So that could mean paying someone else to do yardwork or using a full-service laundry. It's the balancing act of money vs. time. If you have a little extra money — probably because you sold your time to an employer — buy back time by paying for convenience.

**— BUY ACCORDING TO YOUR INTERESTS.**

What represents a happy experience for one person is not necessarily the same for another. Someone who mostly dines out should probably not use discretionary money to buy a fancy set of kitchen knives. But someone who loves to cook? Maybe so. Rubin reminds us, "Beautiful tools make work a joy."

**— BUY DISCIPLINE.**

Want to improve your diet or fitness but have trouble summoning motivation? Use your money. That might mean choosing a pricier gym that's more convenient or even hiring a personal trainer to add accountability. At the supermarket, it could mean buying healthy foods that are more convenient, like bagged salad.

"If you can make it slightly easier to get yourself to do something you want to do,

that's a good way to spend your money," Rubin said.

**— BUY STRESS RELIEF.**

Is there a simple fix for recurring arguments or sources of stress, especially with a significant other? If you argue about a messy home, can you afford maid service? Or, can you afford not to get maid service?

"The question is always, 'Is it cheaper than marriage counseling?'" Rubin quipped.

**— BUY MONEY PEACE.**

"One of the greatest luxuries money can buy is the freedom not to think about money," Rubin said. "And financial security is something that really contrib-

utes to people's happiness." Paying off debt is a good idea, and building an emergency fund is an especially good one. It provides cash for not only real emergencies, like a car repair, but all those emergencies in our heads that never happen but keep us up at night because they might. Happiness is silencing the haunting what-if voices. "The freedom from worry is a big boost to happiness," she said.

**— BUY WIGGLE ROOM.**

If you have extra cash, use it to allow yourself to be sloppy without consequence.

It could be as simple as buying a few extra pairs of underwear so you're not pressed to do laundry every seven days.

**— BUY A DO-GOODER HIGH.**

Be charitable. "Contributing to others is a great way to support the causes you believe in and put your values into the world," Rubin said. □

Associated Press

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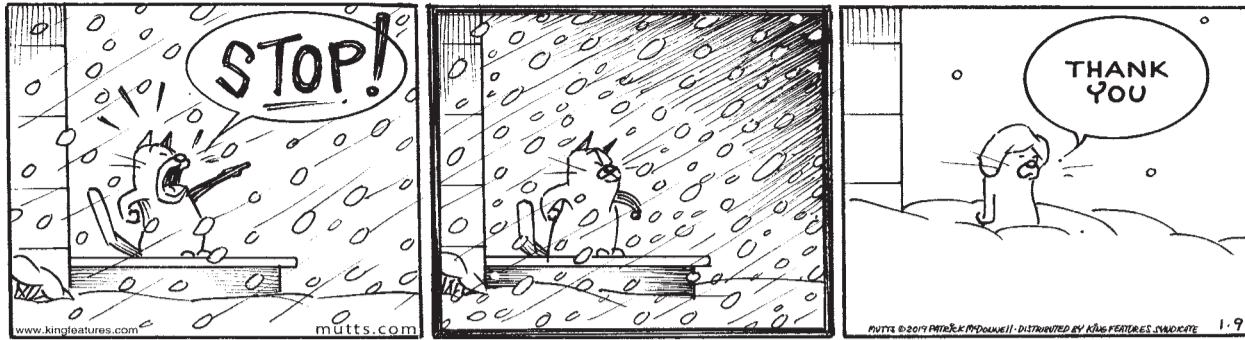
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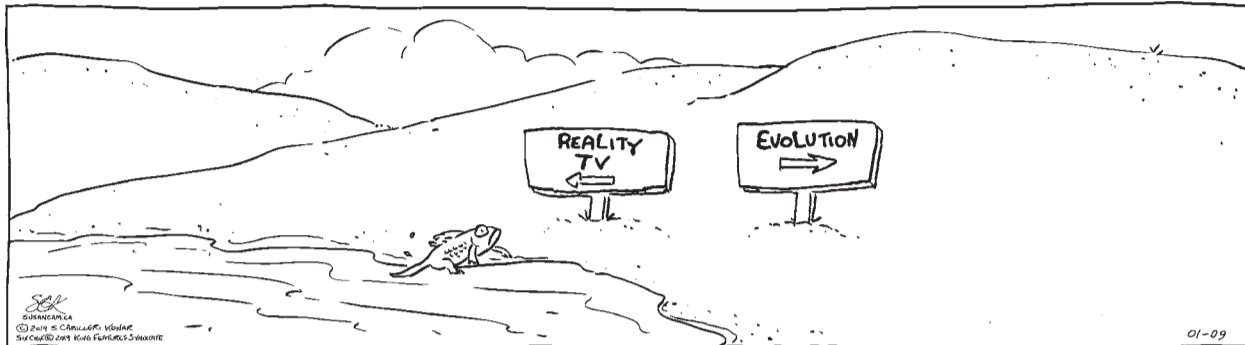
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Map showing location in Downtown Aruba. A magnifying glass highlights the location. Street names include Weststraat, Schepelstraat, L.G. Smith Boulevard, and Caya G.F. Belico Croes.

**Mutts**



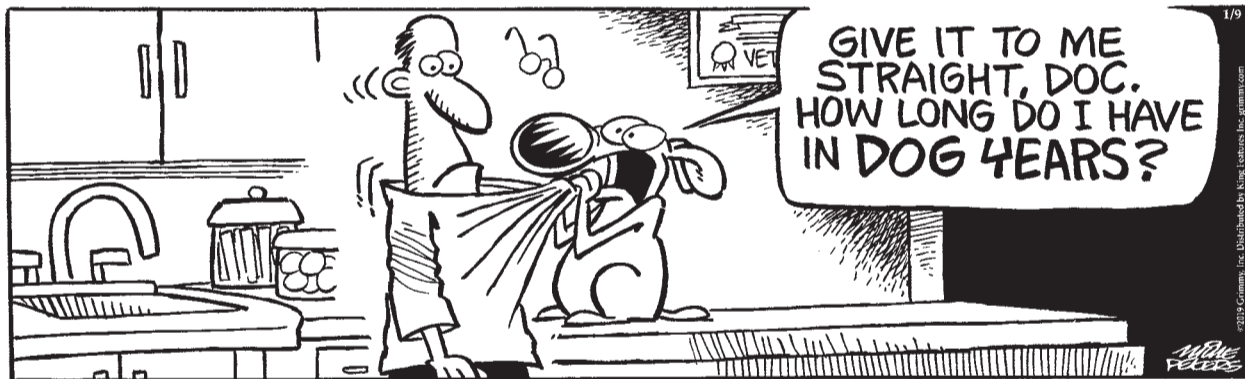
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**Blondie**



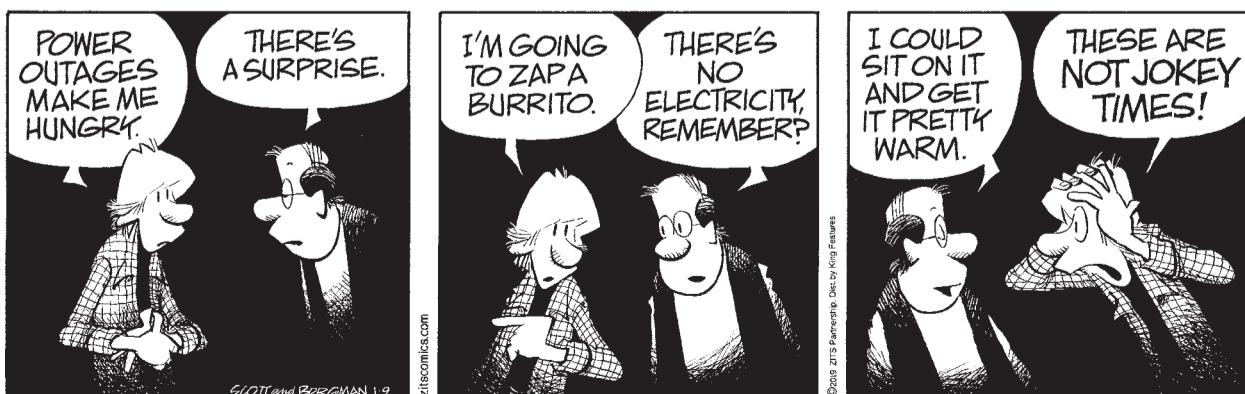
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**Baby Blues**



**Zits**



**Conceptis Sudoku**

		4	3	1				
	6				4			
5	7					8		
8	3					6		
1		6				4		
	9				3	5		
		2	4	5	8	3	6	
						7	9	8
							4	5

Difficulty Level ★★★

1/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

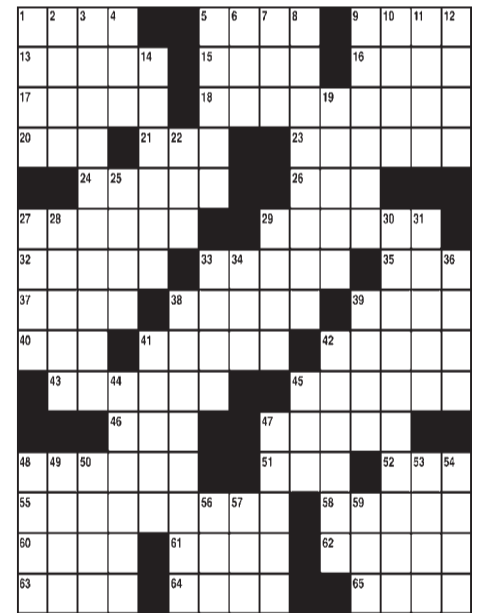
4	8	6	3	1	5	7	2	9
2	1	5	9	7	8	6	3	4
9	7	3	2	4	6	5	8	1
5	3	9	7	6	4	2	1	8
7	6	2	1	8	3	4	9	5
8	4	1	5	2	9	3	6	7
1	2	8	4	3	7	9	5	6
6	5	4	8	9	2	1	7	3
3	9	7	6	5	1	8	4	2

**ACROSS**

- 1 Boost
- 5 Felt put-... was resentful
- 9 Store away
- 13 TV's "Green \_"
- 15 Rectangular glass piece
- 16 Clerical error
- 17 \_ Ste. Marie
- 18 Sugar or Splenda
- 20 Schwarzkopf's initials
- 21 Feasted
- 23 Rely
- 24 Implied, but not spoken
- 26 Kind of dog
- 27 Umpire's cry
- 29 Court break
- 32 \_ out; deteriorates
- 33 Word attached to light or back
- 35 Cushion
- 37 Painting, dancing, etc.
- 38 Meanders
- 39 Zero
- 40 Prefix for heat or view
- 41 Locates
- 42 Teeming crowd
- 43 Floating
- 45 John the Baptist or Joan of Arc, e.g.
- 46 Tiny fellow
- 47 Papers to be filled in
- 48 "The \_ in the Dell"
- 51 " \_ Lazy River"
- 52 Energy
- 55 Fair
- 58 Weight revealer
- 60 Family tree member
- 61 Get an "F"
- 62 Sorority letter
- 63 Cleaning cloths
- 64 Passing crazes
- 65 Writing table

**DOWN**

- 1 Whip
- 2 " \_ See Clearly Now"
- 3 Fed up



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1/9/19

**Tuesday's Puzzle Solved**

C	R	O	W	S	T	R	A	Y	P	R	O	S
H	O	P	E	T	W	I	C	E	H	I	N	T
A	P	E	D	R	E	P	E	N	T	A	N	C
D	E	N	L	E	E	S	A	S	K	E	W	
H	E	I	S	T	H	I	E					
S	H	A	D	E	S	C	A	N	D	I	D	
P	A	N	G	S	B	L	U	N	T	M	A	C
A	N	D	Y	B	O	A	R	D	S	P	R	Y
T	O	E	B	O	A	S	T	F	A	R	E	S
I	D	L	E	R	S	H	O	N	E	S	T	
A	G	E	B	O	X	E	S					
T	H	E	T	A	F	A	U	X	S	I	P	
R	E	L	E	N	T	L	E	S	S	R	I	C
A	R	M	S	K	A	T	I	E	O	V	E	N
P	E	S	T	O	P	E	N	S	T	E	D	S

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1/9/19

- 39 Accepted standard
- 41 \_ mignon
- 42 Badger
- 44 Sends in payment
- 45 Janitor's item
- 47 Gas and coal
- 48 Dread
- 49 Greenish-blue
- 50 Ladder step
- 53 American \_; MA's state trees
- 54 Acme
- 56 Pasture cry
- 57 Can top
- 59 El \_; Spanish hero

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**January 9**  
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 Norwegian Dawn  
 Monarch

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# South America bloc's woes leave architectural gem forlorn

By JOSHUA GOODMAN

Associated Press

**SAN ANTONIO DE PICHINCHA, Ecuador (AP)** — It's a gravity-defying edifice that befits the lofty ambitions of what was supposed to be a symbol of South American unity.

Set against an arid moon-scape on the equatorial line, two cantilevered glass wings soar dramatically above a reflecting pool, symbolizing freedom and transparency and looking like something out of a science-fiction movie.

But for all its architectural grandeur, the headquarters of the Union of South American Nations outside Ecuador's capital seems as moribund as the group itself. What was once an aspiring diplomatic hub bustling with official translators and cocktail parties for visiting dignitaries looks more like a ghost building, with barely half the staff it had when it was inaugurated to great fanfare in 2014.

The group's chief architect, former Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, is in jail on corruption charges while another big booster, Venezuela's Hugo Chavez, has died.

Meanwhile, a rightward shift in politics has left the region more polarized than



The Union of South American Nations, UNASUR, building stands forlorn near Quito Ecuador, Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018.

it has been in decades, dampening enthusiasm for the group's anti-imperialist anthem: "Soy del Sur," or "I'm from the South."

"Unasur was a good idea, but ultimately didn't deliver concrete results," said Michael Shiffer, president of the Washington-based think tank Inter-American Dialogue.

In April, half of Unasur's 12 member-states — Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay and Peru — stopped paying dues

and suspended their membership. Then in August, newly elected Colombian President Ivan Duque renounced the treaty altogether, paving the way for his country's withdrawal in February.

The result is a \$20 million deficit that has led to across-the-board budget cuts. At the current rate, the group, which has been without a secretary-general for two years, will burn through all of its cash reserves by April. That's around the same

time that Brazil, whose incoming President Jair Bolsonaro has criticized UNASUR, takes over the group's rotating presidency.

For critics who see Unasur as little more than a wasteful monument to leftist overreach during the previous decade's commodities boom, its headquarters make a convenient target. Designed by Ecuadorian architect Diego Guayasamin, the \$43 million building was built and donated to the group by former

Associated Press

Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa, a protege of Chavez. The prize-winning building, 75 percent of which is underground, is equipped with a state-of-the-art assembly hall, an impressive art collection and salons named for leftist icons like Chilean poet Pablo Neruda and Nobel Prize-winning novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Just like in public buildings in socialist-ruled Venezuela, Chavez's bright-red signature and fiery citations dominate the hallways.

"It's absurd that a building that cost several dozens of millions of dollars has no usefulness," Ecuadorian President Lenin Moreno said in July while announcing that he would demand — illegally, it turns out — that Unasur return the building so that it could be repurposed as an indigenous university. But for critics perhaps the biggest eyesore is the giant bronze statue at the entrance showing a striding Nestor Kirchner, the first secretary-general of the bloc. Since his death in 2010, the former Argentine president has seen his legacy tarnished by allegations of corruption. Supporters of Moreno are leading a campaign to have it removed. □

# Count finds sharp drop in monarch butterflies in California

Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** —

Researchers with an environmental group have labeled as "disturbingly low" the number of western monarch butterflies that migrate along the California coast.

A recent count by the Xerces Society recorded fewer than 30,000 butterflies,

which it said is an 86 percent decline since 2017.

By comparison, the group in 1981 counted more than 1 million western monarchs wintering in California, the San Francisco Chronicle reported.

The Xerces Society conducts annual Thanksgiving and New Year's counts and was not certain what



In this Aug. 19, 2015 photo, Tom Merriman stands behind a monarch in his butterfly atrium at his nursery in Vista, Calif.

Associated Press

caused the numbers to drop. It said there is no substantial evidence of a delayed migration and

butterflies are not being reported in other parts of the country.

A 2017 study by Washington

State University researchers found the species likely will go extinct in the next few decades if nothing is done to save it.

Scientists say the butterflies are threatened by pesticides, herbicides and destruction along their migratory route. They also have noted climate change impacts. University of Michigan and Stanford University researchers found carbon dioxide from car and factory exhaust reduced a natural toxin in milkweed that feeding caterpillars use to fight parasites.

Western monarch butterflies are typically seen from November to March in forested groves along the California coast. □

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# Tia Fuller, fierce woman in jazz, takes shot at 1st Grammy

By MESFIN FEKADU

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Saxophonist Tia Fuller was crying in bed. And praising God. She'd just received the news that she was nominated for her first-ever Grammy Award — but it's not just any nomination: Her inclusion in the best jazz instrumental album category is a historic moment for women because they have rarely been nominated for the coveted award throughout the Grammys' 61-year history.

And if Fuller wins, she becomes just the second woman to take home the prize.

"I feel really blessed. Anytime I think extensively about being in the category and (anything) Grammy-wise, I start tearing up," said Fuller, this time smiling ear-to-ear with light tears of joy in her eyes. "It's really a dream come true. I'm realizing that dreams can become reality and everything is tangible."

Her nominated album, "Diamond Cut," is a smooth and striking collection that has brought the skilled performer, who once played with Ray Charles during her college years and toured with Beyoncé, to the next level. The album, her fifth, was produced by another woman making critical waves in jazz, Terri Lyne Carrington. The drummer, who came to national prominence decades ago in "The Arsenio Hall Show" band, became the first female to win best jazz instrumental album at the 2014 Grammys.

Carrington describes the win as bittersweet because of the "many great female instrumentalists that weren't nominated ever, so that was really disheartening."

"It just shows that there's a lot of work to do when it comes to gender equity in jazz and the music industry in general," she added.

It's one of the reasons Carrington, a three-time Grammy winner, is excited for Fuller's success and has been a mentor to the artist.



**This Jan. 6, 2019 photo shows saxophonist Tia Fuller posing in Piscataway, N.J. Fuller, who teaches at Berklee College of Music and famously toured with Beyoncé as part of her all-female band, is nominated for her first Grammy in the best instrumental jazz album category.**

"I feel like this record is showing her growth and her evolution," Carrington said. "If nothing else, I believe that she's really motivated to keep pushing herself and keep evolving into all that she can be."

"Diamond Cut" is Fuller's first album in six years. She's been busy as a professor at the prestigious Berklee College of Music since 2013, and that decision to move to Boston to fulfill a lifetime dream came at a crossroads: In the same 24-hour period that Fuller was offered the teaching position, Beyoncé asked Fuller to perform again with the band.

"That was the year I think they were doing the Super Bowl and she was going back out on tour," recalled Fuller, who performed with Beyoncé from 2006 to 2010. "While I was on tour with her something came over me and spoke, 'You have to move in faith and not fear. Don't be afraid of what may not happen, or get attached to the artificial result of, 'I'm playing with Beyoncé,'" she said. "So the

reason why that I ended up not going back is because I realized that it was time for me to move on." Fuller's decision was very Beyoncé-like: "She's always pressing forward. Always growing. Always evolving. ...I sat back and I just watched how she would never take 'no' for an answer. She would always find a 'yes.' And that's something that now, I've incorporated into me being a leader, a band leader, a businesswoman, a professor at Berklee, all of that."

The 42-year-old, who was born and raised in Aurora, Colorado, has followed in the footsteps of her parents, who are also musicians and educators. Fuller first started playing the piano at three, then moved on to the flute. But once her grandfather handed her a saxophone, she was hooked.

"I was in the upper level of my parent's house, like the loft. I just remember how it reverberated throughout the house. I was like, 'Oh this is way better than flute, I can be loud.'"

Fuller has making noise ever

since, and doesn't plan on slowing down. She wants to be a voice for women in jazz, especially instrumentalists, who don't get as much as credit as the men. "I'm representative of all of these women out here that are grinding. Terri (Lyne Carrington) served as that for me prior to me even knowing who she was. Seeing her on Arsenio Hall's show, and then of course hearing her name on the scene, watching her on different TV shows. That was an unspoken, internal narrative that spoke to me, 'She's doing it, you can do it,'" she said. "For me, I don't think it's necessarily a historical thing, but hopefully I'm a beacon of light for not only other women, but men, too. And also changing this inadvertent narrative, the male, patriarchal perspective in the jazz world, actually in the musical world. (Women) have always had just as much influence over the music." Her career — and success — has not come without challenges: "I've dealt with sexism, inadvertent sexism,

sometimes racism — sometimes a combination of both."

She recalls coming to New York in the early 2000s to build buzz as a performer, going from jazz club to jazz club to share her music and sound with listeners. "There was a long line of people, of course I'm the only woman up there, so I go onstage and I'm about to play and somebody just cuts me off and starts playing. That was like my first year. That was the first and last time that happened."

She's also faced people assuming she's dating a successful musician to justify her seat at the table, or "even club owners trying to hit on you, not taking you as serious."

But Fuller has preserved, and she's using her role as a teacher to help change the narrative in jazz, and in music.

"I was directing a band full of young men. I'm like, 'What is your job and what is your role in this whole thing?' You can't just sit back passively," she said. "Accountability to me is key for not only women to hold men accountable, but for men to hold their brothers accountable."

In 2017, along with Carrington and 12 other female artists, Fuller developed We Have Voice, a collective that has created a code of conduct that performing arts venues, jazz festivals, schools and others have adopted. The goal, she said, is "to bring the level of consciousness up."

"I think slowly but surely we're doing the work and there is some shift happening," she said. "I especially see it with my students and the younger generation. That's something that's near and dear to my heart. I'm seeing the pain, psychological, physical, emotional pain that it's caused with women and sometimes men, too."

And in between the teaching and playing — she's also busy dress shopping for her big day at the Grammys, taking place Feb. 10 in Los Angeles. □

# 'The Upside' is a cliché-ridden, exploitative mess

By **MARK KENNEDY**  
Associated Press

It's said that January is one of the prime months that Hollywood chooses to dump its most embarrassing films and "The Upside" doesn't exactly disprove that notion.

Few films in memory have squandered so much acting talent in such a cliché-ridden, exploitative and dishonest way. It deserves its frozen grave.

The film stars Kevin Hart as a lazy, skirt-chasing ex-con hoping to reconnect with his estranged wife and son. He accidentally gets a job taking care of an obscenely wealthy New York businessman who became a paraplegic while hang gliding, played by Bryan Cranston. ("You as rich as Jay-Z?" Hart's character asks. "No, richer," comes the reply.)

You can virtually write the rest as "The Upside" unspools. Will Hart's street-wise Dell break his high-class boss out of his luxury Park Avenue apartment and teach him about the joys



This image released by STXfilms shows Kevin Hart, left, and Bryan Cranston in a scene from "The Upside."

of corner-bought weed, street hot dogs and driving the older man's fleet of Ferraris very fast? Oh, yes. Rich white dudes in these films always need loosening up. Will Cranston's Phillip teach his young aide about the joys of opera, investing in

start-ups, kumquats and abstract painting? You saw that coming, too, huh? Poor black guys in these films could always use some smartening up.

Hart often plays a version of the magical black man, a hurricane of truth who readjusts the stuffy white world. There are moments when

race could have been addressed — "Your plantation is bananas," Hart's Dell tells Phillip, "but I'm nobody's servant" — however it's quickly dropped. There's also a moment when the two men bond over both feeling mostly invisible to the larger society — one in a wheelchair, the other a

minority in white America — but that peters out.

There's not enough drama and yet not enough laugh-out-loud moments. Hart shines in a scene in which he encounters a high-tech shower with a robot voice in German, but a later scene in which he cuts Cranston's facial hair is marred by a Hitler joke. When you have hired consummate comedians in Kevin Hart and Bryan Cranston, relying on a Hitler joke is a sign something has gone horribly wrong. (Another sign: This joke — "You are Verdi ugly.") The film comes with its own heavy baggage, including that it was previously owned by The Weinstein Co., before it collapsed amid the Harvey Weinstein sexual misconduct scandal. Re-acquired, it is released as Hart deals with fallout over his previous homophobic tweets, not helped now by a performance in the film in which he balks at using the word "penis" and initially outright refuses to change his boss' catheter because it means touching another man's privates. □

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<p><b>THE MULE</b> CLINT EASTWOOD   BRADLEY COOPER WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-THU &amp; SUN 4:10   6:40   9:10 FRI-SAT 4:10   6:40   9:10   11:40 <b>[R]</b></p>	<p><b>ON THE BASIS OF SEX</b> FELICITY JONES   ARMIE HAMMER MON-SUN 9:15 <b>[PG-13]</b></p>
<p><b>BUMBLEBEE</b> HAILEE STEINFELD   DYLAN O'BRIEN WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-SUN 3:00   5:25 <b>[PG-13]</b></p>	<p><b>SPIDER-MAN</b> JAKE JOHNSON   HAILEE STEINFELD WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-SUN 2:15 <b>[PG]</b></p>
<p><b>SECOND ACT</b> JENNIFER LOPEZ   MILO VENTIMIGLIA <b>[PG-13]</b> MON-SUN 4:45   7:00</p>	<p><b>RALPH BREAKS THE INTERNET</b> JOHN C. REILLY   SARAH SILVERMAN WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-SUN 1:45 <b>[PG]</b></p>
<p><b>AQUAMAN</b> JASON MOMOA   AMBER HEARD WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-THU &amp; SUN 7:50 FRI-SAT 7:50   10:45 <b>[PG-13]</b></p>	
<p><b>THE GRINCH</b> BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH   CAMERON SEEY WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-SUN 1:00 <b>[PG]</b></p>	

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## Tom Hanks to present SAG's lifetime award to Alan Alda

By **JOHN CARUCCI**  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — One of America's sweethearts hands the torch to another when Tom Hanks presents Alan Alda with a lifetime achievement award at the upcoming Screen Actors Guild Award ceremony. The 82-year-old Alda, a Golden Globe- and Emmy-winner, will become the 55th recipient of the annual award given to an actor who fosters the "finest ideals of the acting profession." Hanks will hand it to him in a Jan. 27 ceremony. "I'm so thrilled that Tom agreed to that. I had no idea they were even asking him. And it's so generous of him," Alda told The Associated Press.

Alda and Hanks worked to-



In this Oct. 25, 2018 photo, actor Alan Alda poses for a portrait in New York.

gether on the film "Bridge of Spies," and Alda said they "have run into each other casually over the years at awards ceremonies and on airplanes and things like that. So, I remember him when he was just a kid." □

Throughout a career that has spanned seven decades, Alda has appeared in "The West Wing," "The Aviator" and "Manhattan Murder History," but is perhaps best known for his role as Hawkeye Pierce in the television series "'M(asterisk)A(asterisk)S(asterisk)H." Alda has won six Emmy Awards and was also nominated for an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor in 2004 for his role in "The Aviator." Alda has also been involved in numerous charities and organizations that have supported children's causes, women's issues and the sciences. The latter inspired the formation of the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science at Stony Brook University in New York. □

## Audrey Geisel, widow and promoter of Dr. Seuss, dies at 97

By **BRIAN MELLEY**  
Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — As Dr. Seuss neared the end of his life, the children's author told his wife that she would have to look after the Cat in the Hat, the Lorax, the Grinch and all the beloved characters he created.

It was a mission Audrey Geisel embraced for more than a quarter-century. As overseer of Dr. Seuss' prolific and lucrative literary estate, she carefully guarded the whimsical works of the writer and illustrator less known as Theodor Geisel and expanded the Seuss legacy. She promoted a highly profitable multimedia brand, from books and films to theme park rides and the Broadway show "Seussical."

Audrey Geisel, 97, died Wednesday at her home in the La Jolla section of San Diego, Random House Children's Books announced.

Geisel, who founded Dr. Seuss Enterprises, said she took to heart the responsibility her husband left her when he died in 1991.

"You keep a firm control as if they really were your children," Geisel told The Associated Press in 1998. "I don't want the Cat in a bad part of town, so to speak."

But she went far beyond keeping a tight grip on the



In this March 11, 2004 file photo, Audrey Geisel, widow of famed children's book author Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, poses with The Cat in the Hat.

empire. She broadly expanded it beyond what her husband cared to do while creating his 47 children's stories. And, oh, the places she went with it.

More than 10 million Dr. Seuss books sell each year and new works are coming out, such as last spring's "Dr. Seuss's First 100 words," according to Random House. The 2000 live-action film version of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," starring Jim Carrey, was a box-office smash. But Audrey Geisel and critics despised the 2003 live-action adaptation of "The Cat in the Hat" that starred Mike

Myers of "Austin Powers" fame.

"I never saw 'Austin Powers,' but I knew 'Yeah, baby!' and I didn't want 'Yeah, baby!' at all," she told the AP in 2004.

Geisel is credited as executive producer of the animated film "The Grinch," which was released last month and tapped Benedict Cumberbatch to voice the title character.

A poll conducted by AP-NORC earlier this month put "The Grinch" just behind "It's a Wonderful Life" of favorite holiday films or television. It didn't specify if it was the Carrey version or

the animated 1966 classic produced by Chuck Jones and narrated by Boris Karloff. The movies have been lucrative with the recent "Grinch" production earning \$245 million at the box office, according to Comscore. Animated film versions of "The Lorax" raked in \$214 million and "Horton Hears a Who" made \$154 million. While Geisel has kept a tight rein on productions and merchandising, some of those efforts may have departed from Seuss' spirit, said Philip Nel, an English professor at Kansas State University, who wrote "Dr. Seuss: American Icon."

Associated Press

A group of books, for example, that use the Cat in the Hat as a conventional educator stray from the character's rebellious roots, Nel said. Another book titled "Seuss-isms for Success" takes Seuss quotes out of context to apply to business situations.

"There's been some pretty great stuff, too," Nel said.

"The animated Horton film was really thoughtfully done and understood the Seuss universe really well."

Geisel was a Chicago native and former nursing student at Indiana University.

She and Theodor Geisel, who was 17 years older, were both married to other people when they began an affair in the 1960s. His first wife, Helen, killed herself.

Audrey Geisel sent the two daughters she had with her first husband to boarding school after the Geisels married in 1968. The couple had no children together — Seuss was not particularly fond of kids, she said.

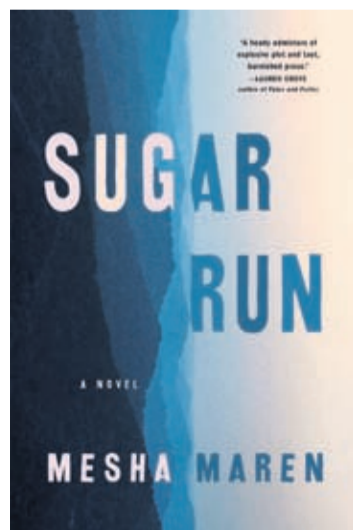
"He was afraid of children to a degree," Audrey Geisel told AP.

Geisel said she understood the gravity of what she was undertaking when her husband died, but said she was surprised how much work it was to oversee the business and philanthropy of the Dr. Seuss Foundation. □

## Mesha Maren's debut novel, 'Sugar Run,' is heartfelt

By **OLINE H. COGDILL**  
Associated Press

"Sugar Run: A Novel" (Algonquin), by Mesha Maren Flawed people and a forceful look at an area ravaged by an economic downturn and a rising opioid epidemic meld in the character-driven "Sugar Run," Mesha Maren's novel debut. At 35, Jodi McCarty is getting her first taste of freedom when she's released from prison after being convicted at 17 for shooting her girlfriend, Paula Dulett. Before Paula, the only person who had been kind to Jodi was her grandmother, Effie. The aimless cross-country trek, including a dip into



This cover image released by Algonquin shows "Sugar Run," a novel by Mesha Maren.

Associated Press

Mexico with Paula, was the closest to happiness Jodi

had known, savoring the "delicious, unfamiliar risk" of each day. The couple supported themselves with petty crimes and Paula's skills as a poker player. Paula's intoxicating talks about how a good poker hand is a "sweet sugar run" has Jodi remembering her West Virginia home, and how she wants to return to the landscape of "flashing mountain creeks that appear out of nowhere after a good rain."

The relationship with Paula — and its violent end — preys on Jodi's mind as she begins her new life, hoping she can fulfill her dream of settling on the land once

owned by her grandmother. Then Jodi meets and falls for Miranda Matheson Golden, who is separated from her husband, a country music star "of receding fame." Along with Miranda's three sons, the new couple heads for West Virginia where Jodi remembers "even the air around her had felt right." Along the way, Jodi hopes to find Paula's younger brother, Ricky, who was abused as a child. "Sugar Run" gains its strength from Maren's uncompromising storytelling and her insistence on showing even the most painful realities, especially when Jodi finds her grand-

mother's land "ripe with disuse." Maren seamlessly moves "Sugar Run" from 1988 as she describes the deteriorating romance between Jodi and Paula and the present as the newly released Jodi, who always considered herself a victim and is now desperately trying to make better choices with her life and her heart. Jodi is constantly weighed down by her past, and her future with the complicated and unstable Miranda. Jodi fears her grandmother was correct — "the future was only a parallel of the past." Jodi's salvation will be if she can rise against her past. □

# Food bloggers bring Africa's rich cuisines to the world

By **AMELIA NIERENBERG**

**Associated Press**

**NGAPAROU, Senegal (AP)**

— In the quiet hours before lunch, two women worked side by side in an airy kitchen. One, a chef, cleaned fresh red snapper filets with a sharp knife. The other, a filmmaker, pointed her camera into a large pot of simmering vegetables.

"What would you say this is, low heat or medium?" Tuleka Prah asked, setting the camera aside.

Her pen poised over a lime green notebook, the 37-year-old Prah waited for the next step in the recipe for thiebou dieune, a traditional Senegalese dish of spiced rice, tender vegetables and fish. She came to this West African nation to document its four most popular dishes as part of My African Food Map, a blog and film archive.

"Low heat," said 38-year-old Touty Sarr, who runs the kitchen of a popular cafe in Dakar. She turned to her daughter, who was watching her cook. "This one, if you put it on high, it would all get dry. That's one of the secrets."

Senegal was Prah's fifth destination since her project began in 2012. She hopes to show the care and skill that goes into African dishes, such as South Africa's fried dough amagwinya and Kenya's kachumbari, an onion and tomato salad.

"The idea, at its most basic, is to present the food how people who love it would prepare it," Prah said. "It's



In this Nov. 24, 2018, photo, a platter of thiebou dieune, a traditional Senegalese dish of spiced rice, is served by Chef Touty Sarr, in Ngaparou, Senegal.

like a database or a digital vault where people can open the drawer, see recipes, see some ingredients." Born in England to a Ghanaian father and a South African mother, she lived in six African countries during her childhood including Namibia, Kenya and what is now South Sudan. After finding no reliable recipes online for Ghanaian dishes — and no photos that made the beloved food look appetizing — she started My African Food Map. She celebrates the cuisines of a continent often marred by negative stereotypes. "Africa is often associated with poverty, with hunger, with failures of food in a political and nutritional sense," said James C. McCann, chair of the history

department at Boston University and a specialist in African environmental history and cuisine. "It's an area of the world that has not been covered by the food craze."

Other culinary historians, chefs, and foodies are fighting such stereotypes. Some, like author and professor Jessica Harris, have studied African and diaspora cuisine, exploring the roots of foods taken far from home by slavery. Others, like Fran Osseo-Asare and her Ghanaian-focused project Betumi, investigate the foods of a single country. "The internet was the democratization of African food writing," said Osseo-Asare, who said she has blogged about African food since the 1980s. "When the internet came, you didn't have publishers as gatekeepers that could stop you from getting your work out."

Unique among prominent bloggers, Prah takes an almost pan-African approach.

"I always feel like I am from the whole continent," she said. "I can find myself in different aspects of different countries I visit."

Her videos often have tens of thousands of views, and she dreams of doing her project full-time like Anthony Bourdain did. She said she has had no luck find-

ing sponsors but intends to keep trying.

"The best outcome is when people say, 'That is our food, that is our dish,'" she said, remembering her work in Kenya. "I was extremely happy when the first comments I got on YouTube were, 'Oh, this reminds me of home.'"

To find authentic recipes and skilled chefs, Prah asks everyone she meets in a country — hosts, cab drivers, shopkeepers and strangers — about their favorite foods. She met Sarr this way, through friends of friends.

"I learned from my grandma. I used to follow her everywhere," said Sarr, who wears her stiff white chef's uniform every time she cooks, even at home, because it makes her feel

more professional. "And our grandmas, they think that taking time with the food gives it more flavor. So I take time, too."

She said she became a chef after money ran out to pursue her dream of being a doctor.

"There are a lot of similarities between cooking and medicine," she said, skinning onions. "The feeling of being full after you have eaten is the same sensation as getting better after being sick. It's something that gives me a lot of pride."

She dropped garlic into sizzling oil, then stepped back as Prah moved close to the pot to film. The two women orbited each other, artists collaborating over the pot bubbling on the stove.

Sarr said she cooks by smell, by sound and by taste, but Prah wrote her steps down in order, recording a recipe for others without the guidance of grandmothers and mothers at their side.

After two hours of chopping and pounding, scraping and whipping, boiling and simmering, Sarr spread red-tinted rice across a platter almost two feet wide. She flattened it and carefully arranged the vegetables and fish in a circle for a communal meal, with some family members eating with spoons and others with their hands.

Prah snapped a picture, and then another, before putting her camera aside to try the dish. "It's really good," she said, her mouth full, smiling at Sarr. "Really, really good." □



In this Nov. 24, 2018, photo, Filmmaker Tuleka Prah, right, films chef Touty Sarr, as she prepares a plate of thiebou dieune, a traditional Senegalese dish of spiced rice, inside a kitchen in Ngaparou, Senegal.

**Associated Press**



In this Nov. 20, 2018, photo, filmmaker Tuleka Prah, the founder of My African Food Map, poses for a photograph in Ngaparou, Senegal.

**Associated Press**